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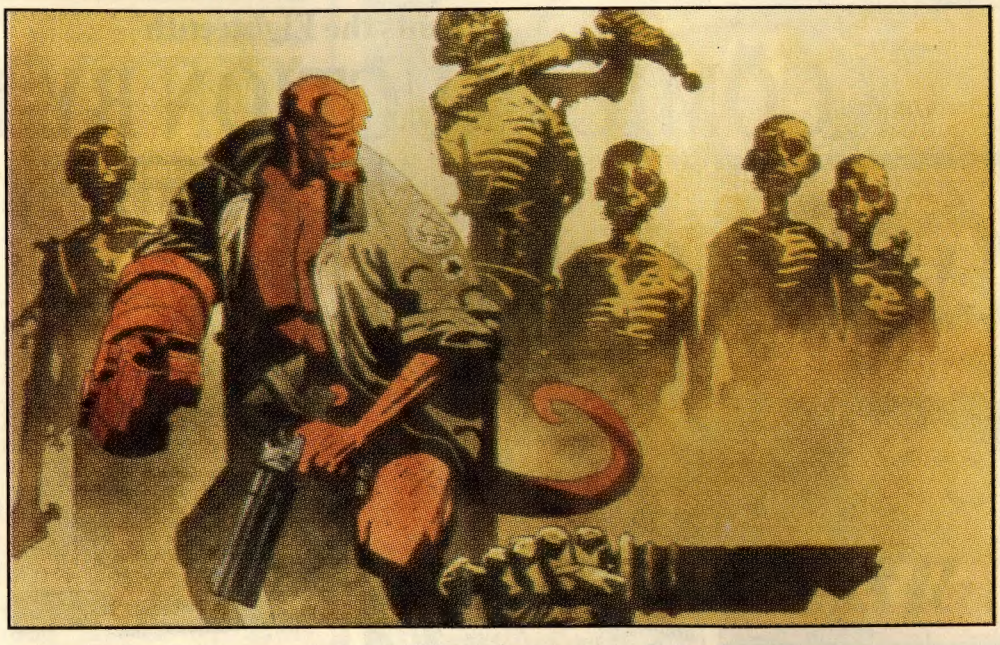

# Hellboy: the illustrated lost army

**HELLBOY, Mike Mignola's creator-owned character published under the Dark Horse Legend imprint, makes a leap out of the standard comics format with the publication of the *Hellboy: The Lost Army* illustrated novel.**

Written by Christopher Golden, author of the **X-Men: Mutant Empire** trilogy, this 208 page illustrated novel is a 7x10" squarebound softcover.

Hellboy creator Mignola has drawn 68 new black and white pages of artwork specifically for this project which, in keeping with previous Hellboy stories, utilises an actual historical event as the basis for the story.

It tells how, in 525 BC, an army of 50,000 soldiers was sent 600 miles across the Egyptian desert by the Persian king Cambyses. Its objective was the capture of an oasis city situated somewhere near where the Libyan border stands today.

## Lost without trace

Almost at the end of its trek, the army was overtaken by a hurricane-force sandstorm and — according to Greek history — all 50,000 disappeared without trace.

In **The Lost Army**, Hellboy is sent to find out what happened to a British expedition which, in 1986, went to search for evidence of the event. But it, too, vanished.

**The Lost Army** is something of a departure for Mignola as, apart from John Byrne's assistance with scripting the first Hellboy mini-series — 1994's **Seed of Destruction**, Mignola has chosen to write all his creation's appearances himself.

Speaking of his collaborator on this new project, Mignola commented, "I want to thank Chris Golden for giving Hellboy a sex life, which is something I probably never would have gotten round to."

***Hellboy: The Lost Army** illustrated novel, priced $14.95, ships on May 21.*

**COVER:** *Super Soldier, drawn by Hertfordshire's Dave Gibbons, heads up year two of the Marvel-DC co-produced Amalgam line. Full story on pages 12-13.*

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***ComicsInternational** is a monthly industry newspaper devoted to the comics medium. As such, it provides details of forthcoming UK and US comics and related items, together with commentary on current titles.*

*Certain products mentioned are not available through regular newstrade outlets, but only from the Direct Sale comics pecialist shops and mail order companies. Details of specialist outlets are advertised throughout this magazine, and a listing of the major companies in Britain and Ireland is given in our Retail Index and Mail Order Index sections.*

***Shipping dates** mentioned for North American titles are the dates copies leave their printersto be air-freighted to distributors for Direct Sale outlets approximately one week later. These dates and titles do not relate to on-sale dates or titles for newsagent sale.*

*The Marvel and DC titles on sale through newsagents are in the UK approximately two months after the air-freighted copies can be bought through specialist outlets dealing with "advance import" copies. Because of the additional shipping costs incurred, these advance copies are sold at a higher price than newsagent copies.*

***American dollar prices** are listed for US titles with most comic shops converting at 85p = $1.*

*Most reputable mail order dealers bear a CoBRA seal on their advertisements. For full details concerning advertisers displaying this Mail Order Protection seal, see page 78.*

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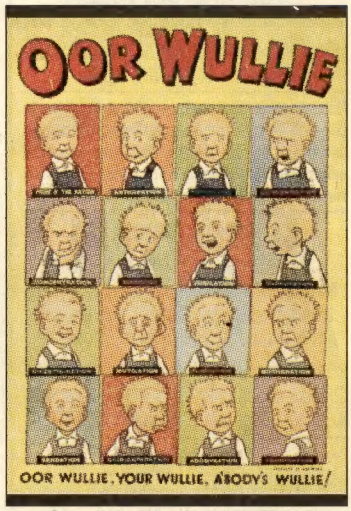


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# Image burlesque with attitude

**IMAGE COMICS' latest development in a diversification strategy is *Dusty Star*, a new black and white title.**

Written by Joe Pruett and drawn by Andrew Robinson, **Dusty Star** is a combination of western, science fiction, adventure and humour.

Set in a different time and in a strange place, the world of Dusty Star — a tough-as-nails gunslinger with a steely gaze and a draw as fast as greased lightning — is burlesque shows and all-night poker games, robots and flying ships, tattooed horses and new-wave cowboys — and cowgirls with attitude.

***Dusty Star* #0, priced $2.95, ships in April.**

# Mark Texeira paints Harris's new Vampirella vs Pantha

**MARK TEXEIRA returns to doing artwork for Harris Comics' leading lady in a one-shot book,** Vampirella vs Pantha.

The new title is written by Mark **(Swamp Thing)** Millar with fully-painted art by Texeira, who last drew the dame from Draculon for last year's **Vampirella Anniversary Special.**

**Vampirella vs Pantha** is Harris Comics' first fully-painted **Vampirella** book. It features the vamp's confrontation with the lethal villainess, Pantha — last seen in the **Catwoman/ Vampirella** crossover and first introduced in Warren's 1974 **Vampirella** #30.

The new one-shot will also be published as **Pantha vs Vampirella** — with Texeira's painted covers on each version.

***Vampirella vs Pantha*, priced $3.50, ships in March.**

# Angel Fire next from Tucci

"IT'S A KIND of tribute to Modesty Blaise," said William Tucci of his latest creation, **Angel Fire** — to be published by Tucci's Crusade Comics.

Written by Tucci and Dan Mishkin, **Angel Fire** is the story of Anastasia Pizer, a government agent. Embarking on a mission to trace some renegade secret service agents from a government agency in the former Soviet Union's territory, she finds herself caught up in a critical race to gain possession of powerful new weaponry that unleashes the mysterious and deadly Angel Fire.

"Anastasia is young and beautiful, with a heart of gold," remarked Tucci, "and she's loyal to her government to the end. But she's also tough and independent. She'a a natural leader."

**Angel Fire** will be illustrated by Robert **(X-Men)** Flores and debuts as a *Crusade Sneak Attack* flip book preview in **Shi** #12.

**Angel Fire** #1 will, itself, contain a *Crusade Sneak Attack* preview — of the forthcoming **Tomoe** mini-series by Tucci, Bedard and J.G. Jones.

In his position as Crusade Comics' publisher, Tucci also recently addressed retailer concerns about haphazard scheduling and shipping.

"This is the dawn of a new Crusade," he said. "We are adopting a *no b.s.* policy to help streamline the organisational process. The bottom line is that in 1997 all new Crusade projects will ship during the month they are solicited to come out.

"It took us a long time to get to this point," he added, "and we're thrilled that the retailers have continued to place their confidence in us. We will not let them down."

***Angel Fire* #1 ships in March. *Shi* #12, ships in February. Both books are priced $2.95.**

# Martians go to High School

FOLLOWING the success of Tim Burton's *Mars Attacks* movie and the **Mars Attacks the Savage Dragon/Mars Attacks the Image Universe** Topps/Image mini-series, Topps is now producing a **Mars Attacks High School Special.**

This two-issue series — in which the Martians take over a high school and turn it into a re-education camp — reveals the secrets behind the mutated human known as Cannibal Ann.

Drawn by Hugh **(Punisher)** Haynes and Armando Gil and written by Dwight **(Mars Attacks the Savage Dragon)** Zimmerman, it features a Brian Stelfreeze painted cover.

***Mars Attacks High School Special* #1, priced $2.95, ships in March.**

# Black Cross: Dark Horse's first action hero makes comeback

**BLACK CROSS — a blend of Mad Max and The Man with No Name from Sergio Leone's Clint Eastwood *Dollars* trilogy — returns in Black Cross: Dirty Work, a Dark Horse Comics one-shot.**

Written and drawn by the character's creator Chris Warner, this 32-page title expands on the original 13-page story first serialised in black and white in the original **Dark Horse Insider**.

## Black Cross

Black Cross debuted as the cover feature in the first issue of **Dark Horse Presents [DHP]**, the retail chain turned publishing company's first-ever comics title — with Warner supplying the cover art.

Always written and drawn by Warner, Black Cross went on to appear in several further issues of **DHP** and in the **Black Cross Special** #1 (1/88) — which reprinted those **DHP** stories.

More recently the character has played a part in the Dark Horse 10th Anniversary celebrations, appearing in **DHP** (#100-4) and in **A Decade of Dark Horse** #4.

## Chris Warner

Although Warner has worked for Marvel Comics (on **Doctor Strange, Moon Knight** and Epic's **Alien Legion**) and had an ill-fated brief liaison with DC, cut after he drew only one issue of **Batman**, he has been a Dark Horse mainstay since the company's inception.

Apart from **The American** and his own **Black Cross**, Warner has also worked on a variety of Dark Horse licensed series, including both the first **Predator** (**Concrete Jungle**) and the first **Terminator** (**Tempest**) mini-series as well as **Aliens vs Predator, Aliens vs Predator: War, Predator: Bad Blood** and **Predator: Bloody Sands of Time**. His work has also appeared in the **Dark Horse Comics** anthology.

In addition, Warner played a pivotal role in the origination of Dark Horse's *Comics' Greatest World* — now known as *Dark Horse Heroes*. As well as visualising all but three or four of the initial 16 concepts, Warner was responsible for the creation of Barb Wire, Motorhead, Pitt Bulls, and Wolf Gang.

Warner scripted Barb Wire's first appearance (in **Comics' Greatest World: Steel Harbor** #1) and wrote and pencilled the recent **Barb Wire: Ace of Spades** mini-series.

With the *Barb Wire* movie already out on video and *Pitt Bulls* in development as a movie, there is a kind of symmetry to the fact that a Black Cross movie is now in pre-production.

Russell (*The Shadow*) Mulcahy is set to direct it from a screenplay co-written by Steve (*Star Wars: Shadows of the Empire*) Perry and an as-yet unnnamed collaborator.

For the future, Warner recently announced that a new **Black Cross** mini-series is currently planned for later this year.

***Black Cross: Dirty Work**, priced $2.95, ships on April 23.*

# Augustyn and Waid create the Golden Age of Valiant

OPERATION: Stormbringer **is the second of Acclaim Comics' special event issues, following the recent** Man of the Atom. **A 48-page one-shot,** Operation: Stormbringer **serves to introduce a line of Golden Age heroes to the Valiant Universe.**

The story — by **The Flash** co-writers Brian Augustyn and Mark Waid — is set during World War II, recounting the Nazis' unleashing of an unstoppable juggernaut on Eastern Europe.

Known as the Teutonic Knight, he had been the previous host of the X-O armour.

Sent to stop him are The Stormbringers. A group of dedicated freedom fighters, they may be the Allies' only chance of penetrating the Nazi stronghold and defeating the Teutonic Knight.

Led by the tongue-in-cheek sounding Sgt. Turok of the Howling Easy, The Stormbringers is made up of Gilad the Warmaster, Bravado, Jack Rapid, Nemesis and Doctor Tomorrow.

Drawn by fellow Brits Doug (**The Punisher**) Braithwaite and Robin (**Incredible Hulk**) Riggs,

**Operation: Stormbringer** will be the first title to look at the history of the Valiant Universe and the predecessors to today's heroes.

***Operation: Stormbringer**, priced $3.95, ships in April.*

# Vertigo's new psychic thriller

**DC IS adding a psychic thriller to its Vertigo line in the six-issue** Fault Lines **mini-series.**

Created and written by Lee Marrs, whose previous credits include a reprise of Joe Kubert's classic character in the DC hardback **Viking Prince: Viking Glory** graphic novel, **Fault Lines** is the story of Tracey Farrand, who is troubled by flashes of ESP and bouts of mental illness.

She retreats to what proves to be "a psychic hot spot" located in the High Sierra Mountains — spiritually speaking; somewhere on the map between Cicely, Alaska and Twin Peaks, Washington. There she encounters a romantic ghost, a supernatural predator and an ancient, savagely compelling entity, all three of which are after Tracey.

**Fault Lines** is illustrated by Bill Koeb — background artist on *The Crow: City of Angels* movie — who will also be drawing cover art. Koeb . He has also worked on The Sandman Gallery and on Marvel's **Hellraiser**.

***Fault Lines** #1, priced $2;50, ships on March 12th.*

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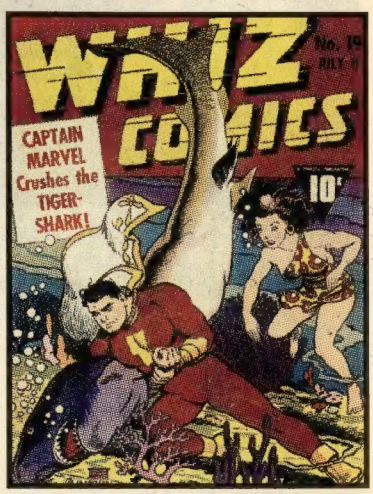


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# Medieval Spawn spin-off

OUT of the pages of Image Comics' **Medieval Spawn/ Witchblade** and into **Arcanum** comes the Machiavellian Matthew Royale, a major character from one of 1996's most succesful mini-series.

To be published by Image from Marc Silvestri's Top Cow Productions, **Arcanum** (a word meaning great secrets) is a four-issue mini-series. Conceived, developed, written and pencilled by Brandon Peterson, it relates how Royale's grand scheming in the medieval age reaches its culmination in modern times.

A master planner, Royale is patient, calculating, and incredibly intelligent. He has cracked the world's greatest mysteries, set earth-shattering events in motion and *then* waited 800 years to reap his rewards.

**Arcanum** tells the story of people from all over the world who discover that they have been charged with a mysterious magic which gives them control over the forces of nature: Light and Darkness, Fire and Ice, Earth and Water, and Life and Death.

They then find that they are intended to be soldiers fighting an ancient war between Good and Evil.

If Good should triumph, its victory will usher in an age of greatness for mankind. On the other hand, should Evil defeat Good, it will mean the end for all of mankind.

But whichever the winner, Matthew Royale stands to gain.

**Arcanum** is Top Cow's first creator-owned project. It is set in that part of the Image Universe currently home to such other Top Cow magic-related titles as **The Darkness** and **Witchblade**.

Creator Peterson's credits include his time at Marvel Comics, starting in 1992. There he spent over a year working on various mutant hero titles most notably **The Uncanny X-Men**.

In late 1993, he moved to Image Comics and Top Cow Productions, where he has since worked on such properties as **Codename: Strykeforce,** the **Ripclaw** mini-series and the **Misery Special**.

Most recently, he was credited as co-plotter & penciller on the hit **Medieval Spawn/Witchblade** mini-series.

Of his first ever creator-owned comics property, Peterson said, "I think **Arcanum** will appeal to almost everyone.

"There is plenty of action and adventure to satisfy the adrenaline crowd, while the book is heavily based on history, mythology and classical literature." he continued. "I am really trying to make a book that works on several levels."

As a sales boost, the first issue of **Arcanum** will be published with both a regular and a variant cover. Produced by Marc Silvestri — currently pencilling **The Darkness** — the variant cover will be allocated as one in every four copies.

***Arcanum* #1, priced $2.50, will ship on March 5.**

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# Batman bonanza in March

**DC COMICS' celebration of the tenth anniversary of Frank Miller's milestone** Batman: The Dark Knight Returns **mini-series and graphic novel ends with** Batman: The Dark Knight Returns 10th Anniversary Edition **trade paperback.**

This 224-page collection includes a new introduction, end-papers and chapter headings by Frank Miller, covers from both the mini-series and the Warner Books edition, the plot for **The Dark Knight Falls** along with some sketch material from the artist's notebooks.

This new edition will feature a cover reproducing the artwork from the *Dark Knight "Lightning" Poster*.

## Bolton's Man-Bat

The three-issue **Batman: Man-Bat** mini-series written by Jamie **(The Horrorist)** Delano and painted by award-winning artist John Bolton is also to appear in a collected edition.

Like the new **The Dark Knight Returns** book, this trade paperback edition contains a number of additional features: an introduction by the horror writer, Christopher Fowler, reproduction of all three original wraparound covers and preparetory material from Bolton's notebooks.

**Batman: Man-Bat** has a new cover, also by Bolton.

## Bat-gallery

Following the success of Batman character pin-up books such as **The Batman Gallery** or **Batman: The Dark Knight Gallery**, DC is rolling out **The Batman Chronicles Gallery**.

The 32-page single edition book will — like its predecessor, **The Batman Chronicles** — focus on the secondary characters in Batman's world with only intermitent appearances by Batman himself.

Artwork credits on the book include Jim Aparo, Kelley Jones, Walt Simonson, Dave Taylor, Rodolofo Damaggio, Matt Haley, John Paul Leon, Lee Weeks and Bruce Timm.

***Batman: The Dark Knight Returns 10th Anniversary Edition** trade paperback, $14.95, ships on March 5th. **The Batman Chronicles Gallery**, $3.50, ships on March 12th. **Batman: Man-Bat** trade paper-back, $14.95, ships on March 19th.*

# Flash Gordon artist dies

**DAN BARRY, best known for his work on the** Flash Gordon **newspaper strip, has died after a long fight against cancer.**

Born in 1923, Barry began his comics career in the early 1940s, as an assistant on titles including Street & Smith's **Doc Savage**.

After World War II he worked for a variety of publishers, including Gleason — where his work appeared in **Crimebuster, Daredevil** and **Crime Does Not Pay** — and Hillman, where he worked on **Gunmaster, Airboy** and **The Heap**.

Subsequently, he also worked for DC on titles such as **Gang Busters** and **Big Town** as well as drawing for *Johnny Quick* and *The Vigilante*.

In 1947 he took over the *Tarzan* daily strip from Rex Maxon. He left in 1951 to draw the revived *Flash Gordon* daily, adding the Sunday page in 1967.

During his first years on the daily strip, Barry collaborated with such luminaries as Frank Frazetta, Jack Davis and Harvey Kurtzman. Later on, much of Barry's *Flash Gordon* work was actually drawn by assistants.

Barry's most recent work appeared in **The Young Indiana Jones Chronicles** and **Indiana Jones: Thunder on the Orient** for Dark Horse Comics as well as in **Penthouse Comix**. For the latter he wrote and drew the nine-part *Slim & Nun*, which concluded in the February-shipping #20.

# IN BRIEF

## Storyteller slipcase

**BARRY Windsor Smith: Storyteller** #7 will not ship in April as originally intended.

Instead the issue will be scheduled for May publication to make room for the Barry Windsor-Smith: Storyteller Illustrated Slipcase.

This 9.25 x 12.75in custom-illustrated laminated archival slipcase — produced by the Windsor-Smith Studio and Dark Horse Comics — is designed to hold the first 12 issues of **Storyteller**.

***Barry Windsor-Smith: Storyteller Illustrated Slipcase**, priced $9.95, ships on April 16.*

## Aztek: Ultimate Man's last

**AZTEC, the Ultimate Man** is to be cancelled with #10, the final issue which features a guest appearance by the Justice League.

This last issue is written by series creators and regular scripters Grant Morrison and Mark Millar, and illustrated by the regular art team of N. Steven Harris and Keith Champagne; Steve Lightle provides cover-art.

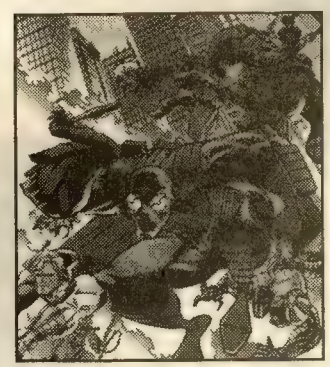
■ **JLA** #5, written by series regular Morrison features a recruitment drive with Aztek, Supergirl, and Hitman among the potential members.

**JLA** #5 is illustrated by the regular art team of Howard Porter and John Dell, who also provide the cover.

***Aztek, the Ultimate Man** #10, priced $1.75, ships on March 19.*
***JLA** #5, priced $1.95, ships on March 5.*

## The Return of Freak Force

ERIK Larsen's Highbrow Entertainment is set to relaunch **Freak Force** in a second ongoing series from Image Comics.



Freak Force's members — Super Patriot, Rapture, Dart, Barbaric, Ricochet, Mighty Man, Horridus, and Star — made their individual debuts in Eric Larsen's **The Savage Dragon** series before combining for the team title, which ran for 18 issues [12/93 to 6/95].

**Freak Force** volume two will be written by Larsen and drawn by Andy Kuhn.

***Freak Force** volume 2 #1, priced $2.95, ships in March.*

## Slave Labor's Space Hustlers

DESCRIBED by its publishers as "a great space opera in the fine tradition of Howard Stern [an infamous New York DJ styled on shock-jocks]," **Space Hustlers** relates the adventures of a band of guns-for-hire who take to the sewers to in a bid to kidnap a scientist at stool.

Written and illustrated by Steve Owen, Slave Labor Graphics' 24-page **Space Hustlers** is published in black and white.

***Space Hustlers** #1, priced $2.95, ships in March.*

## New Spirit jam views in Previews

A TWO-PAGE *Spirit Jam* serial will run through **Previews** (vol VII #2) in the February edition of the Diamond Comic Distributors "megalog". The series will run through to the May issue (volume VII #5).

This serial — a look at the forthcoming series from Kitchen Sink — will feature art by Mike Allred, Michael Avon Oeming, Matt Brundage and Laura Allred.

***Previews** volume VII #2, priced $2.75, ships in February.*

## Slave Labor's abel

DESCRIBED by its publishers as "a blending of *The Grapes of Wrath* and *To Kill a Mockingbird* with a touch of **Stray Bullets**," **abel** is a new, black and white three-issue series from Slave Labor Graphics.

Set in the town of Friend, Nebraska, during World War II, **abel** is written by William Harms with art by Mark Bloodsworth and Troy Zurel.

***abel** #1, priced $2.95, ships in March.*

## Spider-Man Unlimited extends X-Force story

**SPIDER-MAN Unlimited** #16 continues the quest for the Latverian crown begun in **X-Force** #64 by Nathaniel Richards.

Silver Sable guest-stars in this tale produced by the creative team of Mark Bernardo (story) and Joe Bennet and Tim Dzon (art).

***Spider-Man Unlimited** #16, priced $2.99, ships on March 26.*

## 1946 and all that

**LUFTWAFFE 1946** is a new black-and-white monthly series from Ben Dunn and Ted Nomura and Antarctic Press. Set in an alternative timeline, it picks up storylines from the four-issue 1996 **Luftwaffe** mini-series.

World War II is still being fought and Himmler has persuaded Hitler to set up his own kamikaze corps — the Luftsturm (air guard). With the Reich beleaguered by America and the Soviet Union, the Luftsturm's first target is the American long-range bomber squadrons.

***Luftwaffe 1946** 1 ($2.95) ships in March.*

# AMALGAM

*Reprising a major comics publishing event of 1996, Marvel and DC combine*

**Dark Claw Adventures #1**
by Templeton & Burchett

**Bat-Thing #1**
by Hama, Damaggio & Sienkiewicz

**Generation Hex #1**
by Milligan, Pollina & Morales.

### *Bat-Thing #1 (DC)*

A SCIENTIST mutates into a creature part-bat and part human. Batman meets Man Bat meets Man Thing meets Swamp Thing! Driven only by a need for vengeance, the hideous Bat-Thing seeks revenge on the motorbike gang responsible for his cursed transformation. Story: **Larry Hama**. Art:**Rodolpho Damaggio** and **Bill Sienkiewicz**

### *The Dark Claw Adventures #1 (DC)*

"BASED on Dark Claw: The Animated Series", this title presents a cartoon-style reappearance for the merged Batman/Wolverine hero as he fights the assassin Lady Talia, loose in New Gotham. Knowing he is responsible for the death of Talia's father Ra's A-Pocalypse, the story asks whether Logan can first defeat the facsimiles of his deadliest foes in the Danger Cave and then face the idea of unleashing his adamantium claws against the daughter of the man he had killed.

Story & pencils: **Ty Templeton**. Inks:**Rick Burchett**

### *Generation Hex #1 (DC)*

JONO Hex unites a team of metahuman outlaws to take revenge against the town of Humanity. Team members are Skinhunter, Madame Banshee and the mysterious Retribution. Story:**Pete Milligan**. Art:**Adam Pollina**and**Mark Morales**

### *JLX Unleashed #1 (DC)*

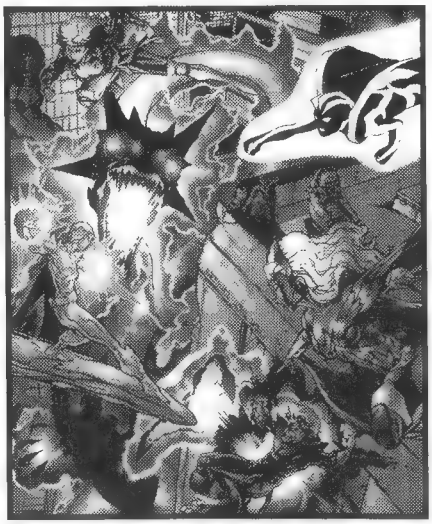
DECIMATED by the Armageddon Agenda, the amalgamation of the X-Men and the Justice League returns, only to lie at the mercy of the Hellfire League of Injustice. The team of evil-doers summons forth the brimstone-born Fin Fang Flame, a dragon who will lay waste to everything in its path unless the JLX can crawl back out of the ashes and defeat it. Story: **Christopher Priest**. Art:**Oscar Jimenez** and **Anibal Rodriguez**

### *Lobo the Duck #1 (DC)*

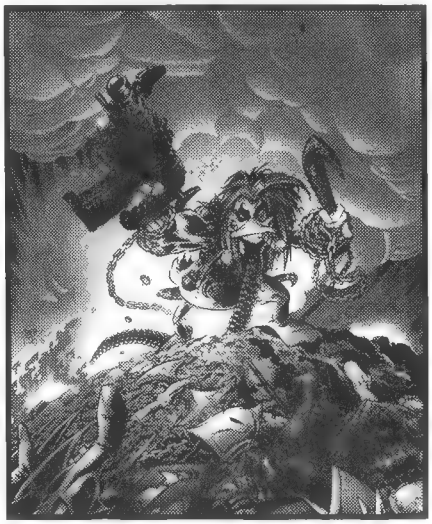
THE MAIN MALLARD is on the trail of the mastermind responsible for the deaths of Spider-Boy, Super-Soldier, Dr Strangefate and all of the Amalgam superheroes. Worse, Lunatik-Bug has jumped into the act, with Dr Bong-Face and Lobo's faithful girlfriend Bearlene not far behind. Story: **Alan Grant**. Art:**Val Semeiks** and **Ray Kryssing**

### *Super-Soldier: Man of War #1 (DC)*

THE MOST popular Amalgam hero returns as the Superman/Captain America hybrid's World War II past is revealed. Teamed with Sgt Rock and his Howling Commandos, Super-Soldier must destroy the mad Major Zemo's ultimate weapon: The War Wheel. Story: **Mark Waid**. Co-writer & pencil artist: **Dave Gibbons**. Inks:**Jimmy Palmiotti**



**JLX Unleashed #1**
by Priest, Jiminez & Rodriguez



**Lobo the Duck #1**
by Grant, Semeiks & Kryssing

# PHASE II

MARVEL COMICS

*their characters for Amalgam Year Two. Priced $1.95 each, all 12 titles ship on April 2.*

### *Challengers of the Fantastic #1 (Marvel)*

THE World's Greatest Death Cheaters, The Challengers of the Fantastic consists of Sue "Ace" Storm - fearless SHIELD agent; Reed "Prof" Richards - dynamic scientific genius; Johnny "Red" Storm - daredevil youth and Ben "Rocky" Grimm - two-fisted senator. Writer Karl Kesel merges two Jack Kirby teams, Marvel's Fantastic Four and DC's FF proto-type The Challengers of the Unknown into one amalgamated group, the Challengers of the Fantastic. Blending Galactus with Brainiac, Kesel introduces the latest cosmic threat, Galactiac, as the team's protagonist. Story: **Karl Kesel**. Art: **Tom Grummett** and **Al Vey**

### *The Exciting X-Patrol #1 (Marvel)*

AGAIN merging DC's original Doom Patrol with Marvel's X-Force, the story tells how the demented Brother Brood has kidnapped team member Shatterstarfire. Now Niles Cable, Elasti-Girl, Ferro Man, The Beastling and Dial H.U.S.K. risk certain doom when they plummett into the Brood Pit. Story: **Barbara Kesel**. Art: **Bryan Hitch**

### *Iron Lantern #1 (Marvel)*

COMBINING Marvel's Iron Man and DC's Green Lantern, **Iron Lantern** tells of the story of Hal Stark, who has been empowered by OA the Living Planet. Wearing the life-sustaining armour, Iron Lantern battles an assortment of well-known, but merged, DC and Marvel villains. Story: **Kurt Busiek**. Art: **Paul Smith** and **Al Williamson**

### *Magnetic Men featuring Magneto #1 (Marvel)*

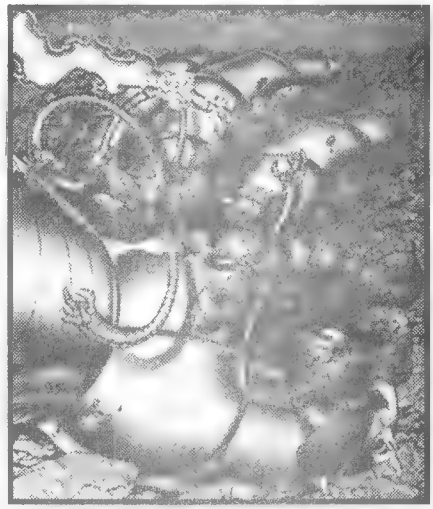
BRINGING back the combined Metal Men and X-Men team, the story has Magneto's refurbished team square up against the evil Sinister Society and a whole slew of nasty new robots. Story: **Tom Peyer**. Art: **Barry Kitson** and **Dan Panosian**

### *Spider-Boy Team-Up #1 (Marvel)*

REPRISING the Spider-Man/Superboy character, this title co-stars a Legion of Super-Heroes/Guardians of the Galaxy future team: The Legion of Galactic Guardians. Spider-Boy is whisked into the future and meets another spider-powered teen who could be Spider-Boy 2099. Story: **Karl Kesel** and **Roger Stern**. Art: **Joe Ladronn**

### *Thorion of the New Gods #1 (Marvel)*

TWO more Kirby creations combine, as Marvel's Thor and DC's Orion of the New Gods merge into Thorion. The story tells of a battle between the realms of New Asgard and Apokalips: Thorion versus his hated brother L'Ok D'Saad, with Thanoseid waiting in the shadows. Story: **Keith Giffen**. Art: **John Romita Jr**



**Challengers of the Fantastic #1**
by K Kesel, Grummett & Vey

**The Exciting X-Patrol #1**
by B Kesel & Hitch

**Iron Lantern #1**
by Busiek, Smith & Williamson

**Magnetic Men featuring Magneto #1**
by Peyer, Kitson &Panosian

**Thorion of the New Gods #1**
by Giffen & Romita Jr

## IN BRIEF

### Totleben returns to Swamp Thing

**AQUAMAN** #32, written by series author Peter David, features Swamp Thing and introduces the new regular art team of Jim Calafiore and Peter Palmiotti.

The cover for this issue will be drawn a by former **Swamp Thing** artist John Totleben, marking his return to comics.

*Aquaman #32, priced $1.75, ships on March 19.*

### Waverley Street film adaptation

**THE WARRIOR of Waverley Street: Broodstorm** is an expanded adaptation of Trimark Pictures' new science fiction film, *The Warrior of Waverley Street.*

This Dark Horse Comics one-shot is written by the screenplay's writer, Manny Coto, illustrated by John (**Tempest**) Stokes and has cover art by Arthur Adams.

*The Warrior of Waverley Street: Broodstorm, priced $2.95, ships on March 5.*

### Baby-sitter gone bad

FIRST seen as a nationally syndicated comic strip in America, Aaron Warner's **Adventures of Aaron** is a new ongoing black-and-white series from Image Comics.

Lacking super-powers, Aaron fights vicious, with unwashed socks and biker-babe dental hygienists, as he is forced to look after his sister's child. He also meets the Copy Queen of Binko's Copy Shop.

Image publicity summarised the title: "Aaron Warner's unique humour and whip-lash-causing artwork continues to break traditions and raise expectations."

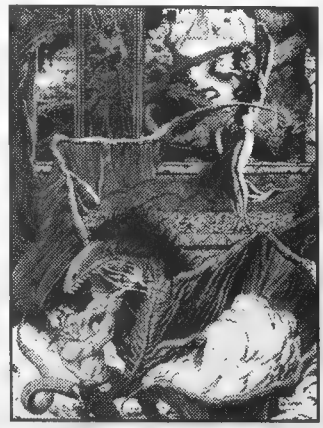
■ Published by Amazing Aaron Productions at the same time is the **Adventures of Aaron CD-ROM Comic Book.**

This is a fully-interactive CD-ROM containing 30 full-colour pages, voice and sound effects and audio backtracks.

Also included are photographs of the people on whom the **Adventures of Aaron** characters are based, as well as several full-colour weekly newsstrips. The CD-ROM is limited to 1,000 copies.

*Adventures of Aaron #1 ($2.95) and Adventures of Aaron CD-Rom Comic Book ($18.50) ship in March.*

### Schultz and Williamson unite



AN interplanetary bounty hunter features in *One Last Job*, a short story from **Dark Horse Presents #120** written by Mark (**Xenozoic Tales**) Schultz and illustrated by Al (**Star Wars: A New Hope**) Williamson, who also provides this issue's cover.

Also featured in this issue is a prequel to **The Lords of Misrule** mini-series currently published by Dark Horse Comics. Written by series co-creator John Tomlinson, it is drawn by Peter (Vertigo's **The Dreaming**) Snejbjerg, who is also illustrating the mini-series.

This black and white issue of Dark Horse's flagship anthology is rounded out with Troy Nixey's *Trout, Hectic Planet* by Evan (*Milk and Cheese*) Dorkin, and *Gather Ye Rosebuds*, a one-pager by Bob Schreck, Casey Jones and Monty Sheldon.

*Dark Horse Presents #120, priced $2.95, ships on April 19.*

### Loner under the spotlight

**WILDSTORM Spotlight** #2 features the first of a two-part story focusing on Wildstorm Studio's newest and oldest hero.

Written by Steven Grant, this is the tale of Loner who, after a 20-year absence, returns to Los Angeles to renew his campaign against crime and corruption.

But there is a problem: no one knows if he is Loner or an imposter.

Roy Allen Martinez pencils, with Gerry Alanguilan inking.

*Wildstorm Spotlight #2, priced $2.50, ships on March 12.*

### Batman special from Mr Monster man

**Batman: Legends of the Dark Knight** #94 features a special one-shot story written and illustrated by Mr Monster's Michael T. Gilbert.

*Batman: Legends of the Dark Knight #94, priced $1.95, ships on March 26.*

# Antarctic Press cuts back

**AS PREVIOUSLY announced in *Movers and Shakers* [*CI* #76 page 86], Antarctic Press is to discontinue the publication of several titles in order to focus on its more popular series.**

Effective with books shipping in March, Antarctic will limit its line to five regular titles: **Ninja High School, Warrior Nun Areala, Shotgun Mary, Robotech, Gold Digger,** and **Luftwaffe 1946.** However, the company will continue to produce both new and reprint issues of Martin Wagner's **Hepcats.**

Antarctic publisher Joe Dunn explained, "At one point, we tried to manage 24 titles in a single month and to maintain that kind of schedule, we had to debut five or more first issues per month. This put a lot of strain on our talent pool and our production resources, and several comics ended up being very late."

"With fewer comics on the calendar," continued Dunn, "we can spend more time working on each title, and I think that retailers and readers will be pleased with the improvements they will see."

# Radio Comix sets up for anthropomorphic titles

**FOLLOWING Antarctic Press's decision to cut back its line of titles (see above), Elin Winkler has formed Radio Comix to continue publication of both *Furrlough* and *Genus* — two of AP's "discarded" comics.**

Winkler — editor of both titles since 1994 and now editor-in-chief at Radio — said, "For several years, I have dreamed about publishing my own comics and now I will have my chance with **Furrlough** and **Genus.**"

Allowing for the cult status of anthropomorphic comics, according to Radio both **Furrlough** and **Genus** have a certain prestigious standing within the genre.

Radio have stated that with #50 — shipping from Antarctic in February — **Furrlough** will become one of the longest-running anthropomorphic titles in comics while **Genus** already ranks as one of the longest-running "adults only" titles ever.

Despite the current industry recession, Radio Comix publisher Pat Duke confidently said, "[**Furrlough** and **Genus**] have a strong following and consistent readership, so we decided to continue publishing them."

"There is a definite need for higher quality stories in this market," he added. "This move will allow us the freedom to meet the challenge."

Among other projects coming from Radio is **The Art of Usagi Yojimbo** by Eisner Award-winner Stan Sakai.

Sakai's 48-page black and white volume will include previously unpublished illustrations as well as a new story drawn especially for this edition.

In conclusion, Duke also explained that the company was planning to branch out into other genres.

***Furrlough* #52, *Genus* #23, both priced $2.95, and *The Art of Usagi Yojimbo* volume one, priced $3.95, ship in March.**

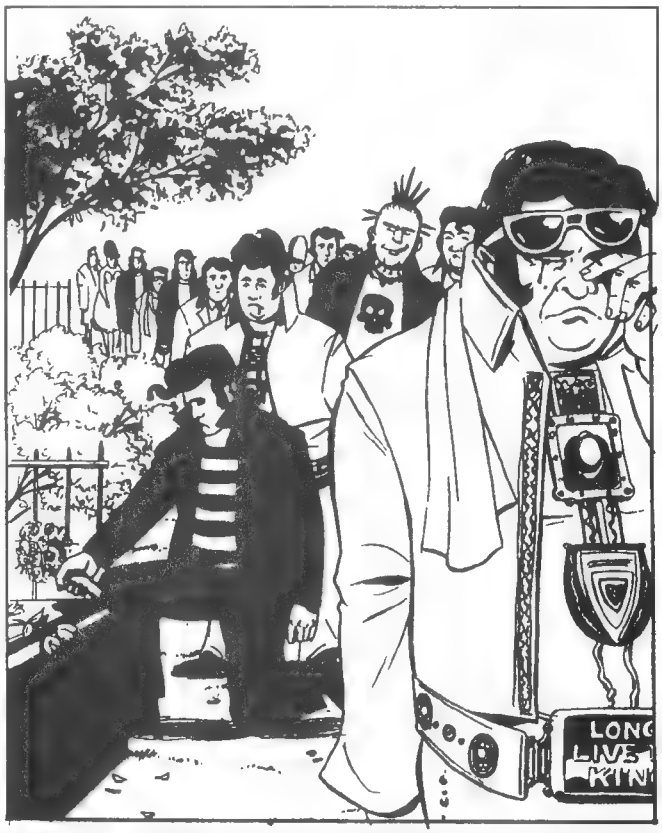
# Penthouse's Miss Adventure

**UNDER the banner heading of *Penthouse Comix Presents*, Kitchen Sink Press is to begin publication of a full colour series of adult graphic novels collecting comic strips which had previously appeared in *Penthouse Comix* and *Penthouse Men's Adventure Comix*.**

First in the series will be **Miss Adventure.** Written by former **Penthouse Comix** editor, the late George Carragonne and Keith Giffen, it is illustrated by Cary Polkowitz and Terry Austin.

Occasional **Penthouse Comix** contributor Gary (Marvelman) Leach provides the cover to this 72-page adults only album edited by the now New York residing Dave (**A1**) Elliott.

***Penthouse Comix Presents #1: Miss Adventure, $14.95, ships in April.***




*Above: **Eddie Campbell's Bacchus** #25. While incarcerated, Bacchus meets up with the punk who invented a hidden trouser-leg plumbing device for the sole purpose of urinating on Elvis's grave. This issue's back-up stories feature Bacchus in Sicily and Alec still in the pub. **Eddie Campbell's Bacchus** #25, priced $2.95, ships in May.*

# Sex, lies and superheroes

**Described by its publishers, DC Comics, as being "in the spirit of such prime-time serials as *Melrose Place* and *Beverley Hills 90210*", Young Heroes in Love is a new ongoing series set within the DC Universe.**

It is the story of eight teenagers who are determined to utilise their exceptional abilities for the benefit of mankind — but not if it means not having a life.

Together they are the super-team known as the Young Heroes.

Consisting of Hard Drive, Off-Ramp, Frost Bite, Bonfire, Monster Girl, Zip Kid and Junior, the team was formed by Hard Drive whose ambition is to be the founder of the next JLA.

He will do whatever it takes to make his dream come true but members of the team are working on their own agenda. Some are well-intentioned but misguided while some are just plain evil.

Whatever their motivation, every team member shares the same goal — to be the best heroes they can be — but each will have to face a power of immeasurable potency and young lust...

No matter how hard he tries, Hard Drive just doesn't seem able to keep the other members out of each other's tights.

**Young Heroes in Love** is written by Dan Raspler with pencils by Dev (**Batman Adventures Annual**) Madan and inks by Keith (**Aztek**) Champagne.

To leave the last word to DC, "This isn't a comic book about heroes saving the world. Or the 'villain of the month.' Or post-modern existential angst.

"This is a comic book about sex, lies and super-heroes. It's the comic book you've always wanted to see, but didn't think anyone would ever do.

"It's sexy, funny, and, in the manner of all good prime-time dramas, addictive."

*Young Heroes In Love #1, priced $1.75, ships on April 23.*

# Marvel closes Heroes World: back to Diamond for US trade

**FOLLOWING weeks of rumours and concern in the international retail trade, David J. Schreff, president and COO of Marvel Entertainment Group, announced on February 7, that Marvel is to close down its New Jersey-based Heroes World distribution division.**

This announcement follows a detailed six month review of the direct market, and concludes that, for the direct sale North American market, to provide a consistent and reliable service to retailers, distribution would best be handled by Diamond.

"By teaming up with Diamond, Marvel will provide our retail customers with a reliable distribution system," explained Screff, appearing to acknowledge the faults in the Heroes World set-up.

"Ultimately, we're doing this to ensure that customers have a simple, practical method for purchasing Marvel products," he concluded.

## *The circle game*

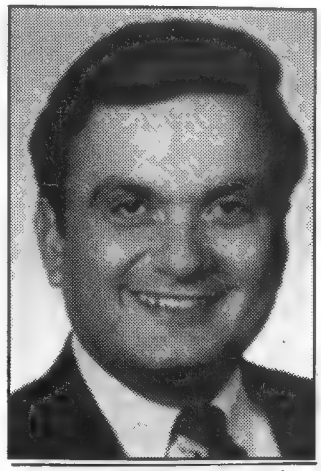
As well as all other independent publishers' titles, Diamond and its competitors had previously distributed Marvel's full line until the publishing leader made the unusual step of buying out an Eastern Seaboard US sub-distributor, Heroes World, in 1995 and attempting to convert it into an international distributor of Marvel titles and related lines.

This in turn led to other publishers seeking exclusivity arrangements, with Diamond winning all major accounts, and main competitor Capital Distributors finally having to close down last year because of lack of high profile product.

Now, ironically, in the wake of Marvel's announcement of its chapter 11 bankruptcy (see **CI** #77), downsizing has led to the closure of Marvel's distribution side as an efficient operation with only one company geared up to handle its massive amount of product.

Diamond Comic Distributor's president and CEO, Steve Geppi, said of this surprising about turn on Marvel's part, "We welcome the opportunity to provide Marvel a solid platform for customer satisfaction," possibly echoing the general dissatisfaction over Heroes World.

Intent on avoiding any break in continuity of supply, Geppi, whose company will begin



*Diamond president and chief executive officer, Stephen A. Geppi*

processing Marvel orders for product on sale February 26, added that Diamond would also assist in collecting accounts receivable and would assist Marvel customers during the transition making "every effort to supply seamless processing and weekly delivery".

By default, this in effect gives Diamond total control over direct distribution of all mainstream US titles, with alternative distributors including Cold Cuts and Syco handling only smaller publishers, making them unable to create a large enough product base to attract sufficient retailers and publishers to be able to offer competitive terms and challenge Diamond.

Many US retailers had welcomed this pending change because it would minimise their paperwork by dealing with one distributor, and would allow for lower shipping charges, better discount breaks and faster reorder supplies.

## *UK distribution*

Distribution of Marvel titles to retailers in Europe is not handled by Heroes World, but by Panini subsidiary, Marvel International Distribution. While Panini is, in turn, owned by Marvel Entertainment, it is not being affected by the closure of Heroes World at this time, and Jess Deacon's Slough-based team will continue to handle all accounts for the foreseable future.

The world-wide long term effects of Marvel pulling out of US self-distribution have yet to become clear, although it is anticipated that greater attention will be paid to the company over the next six months.

COMIC BOOKS

## Blade of the Immortal collection

THE LATEST addition to Dark Horse Comics' manga compilations collects the first four issues of Hiroaki Samura's **Blade of the Immortal** in the **Blood of a Thousand** trade paperback.

This 136-page black & white book is in Dark Horse's popular 8x6" mini-manga format as were its earlier **Gunsmith Cats** and **Oh My Goddess!** collections.

**Blade of the Immortal** — according to Dark Horse Comics "the best-selling samurai series in America" — begins a new three-part series starting with issue #9.

A continuing series of mini-series, **Blade of the Immortal** carries the mini-series numbering on the cover and the ongoing numbering in the indicia.

The new 40 page black and white mini-series is titled *Call of the Worm* and issue #1 — apart from featuring the story and art of creator Hiroaki Samura — will include new pin-ups by Kelley Jones, Jae Lee, Gil Kane, Dick Giordano, Dan Brereton, Gary Gianni, Paul Grist and others.

***Blade of the Immortal: Blood of a Thousand** trade paperback, priced $12.95, ships April 2. **Blade of the Immortal 9**, priced $3.95, ships April 30.*

## Move over Hunter S. Thompson

**BEER & ROAMING in Las Vegas** is a new graphic novel written and illustrated by F. Andrew Taylor and published by Slave Labor Graphics [SLG].

As Slave Labor puts it, "In the proud Gonzo tradition of Dr Hunter S. Thompson, Taylor weaves a tale of Vegas that would do the good doctor proud.

"This magnus opus graphic novel," continued Slave Labor, "is like *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas* crossed with *The Maltese Falcon* as it takes you on a wild ride through some of the stranger parts of Vegas as you follow the adventures of a hapless tourist caught in a maelstrom of high weirdness and cheesy lounge acts."

Published in black and white, **Beer & Roaming in Las Vegas** is 88 pages in a 7x10" format.

***Beer & Roaming in Las Vegas**, priced $12.95, ships in March.*

## JLA collected

**JLA: NEW WORLD ORDER** is the title of the first trade paperback collection of the new Justice League series written by Grant Morrison.

This 96-page compilation features **JLA #1** to 4 complete with a new cover by the regular art team of Howard Porter and John Dell. Also included is a gallery of the covers to the original issues plus a guide to the League members.

"There's been tons of excitement in the shops about **JLA**," reported DC's manager of direct sales, Ann Ivan. "Both the writing and the art has been so well received that we sold out of the issues a lot faster than even we expected."

***JLA: New World Order** trade paperback, priced $5.95, ships on February 26.*

## Poe and the Brother Crumb

ALMOST all comics fans have heard of underground comics legend Robert Crumb but, outside of those who have seen the biographical *Crumb* movie, few are aware of his brother, Maxon.

That may well change with the publication of **Maxon's Poe** from Word Play; a book containing seven adaptations of Edgar Allan Poe tales, each accompanied by a Maxon illustration.

This volume will be available in two limited editions — a softcover of 1,000 copies and a hardcover of 250 copies.

***Maxon's Poe**, priced $17.95 (softcover) and $40.00 (hardcover), ships in March.*

## Aliens #5 remastered

CONTINUING its policy of updating its **Aliens** collections back catalogue, Dark Horse Comics has now reached volume five.

The 136-page **Aliens Labyrinth** trade paperback is written by Jim Woodring and illustrated by Kilian (Vertigo's **Unknown Soldier**) Plunkett. John Bolton provides cover artwork.

***Aliens: Labyrinth** trade paperback (remastered), $17.95, ships on May 7.*

# Frank Miller brings sex and violence to Sin City

"SHE'S A SEX-crazed killing machine" is how creator Frank Miller described Delia, the protagonist of his new **Sin City: Sex and Violence** one-shot.

Written and drawn by Miller as always, **Sex & Violence** is appropriately enough printed in black and blue.

This being the fourth time Miller has utilised two-colour combinations on **Sin City**, he explained, "Colour is very powerful and the eye will be drawn right to it, especially if it's a single element. I love working in colour, but these days so many comics are saturated in colour they all sort of make the eyes hurt."

"Doing the spot color from time to time is fun," Miller continued, "and I always compose my entire job around the use of any color, like I did in **[That] Yellow Bastard**; as you read it there's more and more yellow toward the end for truly disgusting reasons."

He went on, "Sometimes I like to use it to attract, like in **The Babe Wore Red**; I think the reader was much more aware of her than of the lead character."

The first **Sin City** mini-series was published over three years ago and Miller commented on how he got started on the project, "I spent a couple of years not drawing as I worked in the movies and I was aching to draw again. Coming out of Hollywood where everyone was my boss, I wanted to do something to completely please myself."

He remarked, "**Sin City** was my dream project. When I was 14 years old, I was drawing comics about tough guys in trench coats. It was years gestating, coming up with titles and characters, and I finally decided to sit down and make myself very happy. I had no idea whether anyone would like it or not. The fact that it has succeeded and enabled me to do more of them has brought me pleasure beyond belief. Now it's to the point where I can't keep my hands off it."

Aked about the non-linear nature of his **Sin City** stories, Miller said "I work very hard on the timeline; it all does make sense. All of these scenes could be put in sequence and would read correctly. I don't have people come back to life at all; if you see Marv in a story it takes place before the first **Sin City**. If you took all the **Sin City** stories I've done — including the next mini-series — and lined all the scenes up in chronological order, the very last scene would be Marv's electrocution."

Asked about future **Sin City** stories, Miller commented, "Right now they feel endless. I conceived **Sin City** as a vehicle for my favourite kind of story with a lot of room for a lot of exploration."

"I'm having too much fun to stop," he stated.

Of **Sex and Violence**, Miller concluded with, "It's fun for the whole family!"

***Sin City: Sex and Violence**, priced $2.95, ships on March 26th.*

# DC's ultimate comeback hero

**RESURRECTION Man** is a new monthly ongoing series from former **Force Works** and **Ninjak** writers, Dan Abnett and Andy Lanning, with art by Jackson (**DC/Marvel: All Access**) Guice.

The series tells the story of Mitch Shelly, a man with a fragmented past and one sure thing in his future — he will die... and be born again... and again!

Shelly has a metahuman power: he can die, but only to be reborn. Every time he comes back he has a different power — a new ability which is as often a deadly curse as it is a blessing.

**Resurrection Man** is set in a twilight world between the DC Universe legends and the unsettling world of Vertigo.

Shelly's story begins with his death and rebirth in the guise of a wandering vagrant. Assisted by a newfound friend, he discovers bits of his past, but the origin of his powers will remain a mystery for at least the opening story arc.

Among those pursuing Shelly is Hooker. Like Shelly, he is a product of the Resurrection Man process, but — although his mind heals — his body doesn't.

During the first five-issue story arc, Shelly encounters the Justice League and learns to adapt to his changing situation. This despite losing some of his humanity each time he dies.

***Resurrection Man** #1, with lenticular (flickering) image cover and priced $2.50, ships on March 19th.*

# Xero closing: Saving people is not in the job description

**XERO is a new ongoing series from DC Comics co-created by writer Christopher** (Steel and The Ray) **Priest and penciller Chris** (Blood Syndicate) **Cross; inks for the series are by Tom** (Titans: Scissors, Paper, Stone) **Simmons.**

Xero is a Closer — no conscience, opinions or values. Closers are formidable opponents, and cannot be reasoned or bargained with; in essence mono-directional and unstoppable.

Xero's story begins in a dissolute wasteland where law and order are breaking down — justice is hostage to fortune, judges, prosecutors and drug enforcement agents are murdered and tortured. The powers that be take their final option: use a Closer.

Coltrane Walker is a Closer; he is also the most infamous basketball hero of all time. Xero, his alter ego, has the reputation of being the world's deadliest — and most permanent Closer.

Xero is also known as Trane, short for Coltrane, or trainwreck — and he is a violent collision with unpleasant consequences for anyone who gets in his way.

*Xero's first issue, priced $1.75, ships on March 26*

# Event and Crusade start fan clubs

**TOP Cow Comics' announcement last month** (*see CI #77*) **of its own fan club has set off a domino effect in the business with similar launches flagged in February from Event and Crusade Comics.**

There have been similar fan clubs in the past: as early as the Golden Age there was Marvel's Sentinels of Liberty club for Captain America and DC's The Supermen of America.

During the Fifties EC had a similar club while the Sixties brought the Merry Marvel Marching Society and the Seventies introduced F.O.O.M. (Friends of Ol' Marvel).

As late as the early Nineties Marvel made another attempt with the abortive W.A.M. (Wild Agents of Marvel). Apart from the mass interest generated in the very beginning these clubs have existed largely in isolation.

Now, within as many months, three publishers are turning to this unusual marketing strategy.

Crusade's Shi Fan Club will be available only through comic shops and, on joining, members will receive a boxed kit.

As publisher Billy Tucci explained: "It's a combined effort between **Previews** and Crusade and the retailers. Instead of soliciting the fan-club kit through our own books, we're offering it through comic shops. Because let's face it, if it wasn't for them I'd have nothing, and I don't want to cut them out.

"When retailers order the fan-club package, inside there's a Rising Sun edition of my next mini-series, **Heaven and Earth** [signed by Tucci]," he continued, explaining that the package was available only to members.

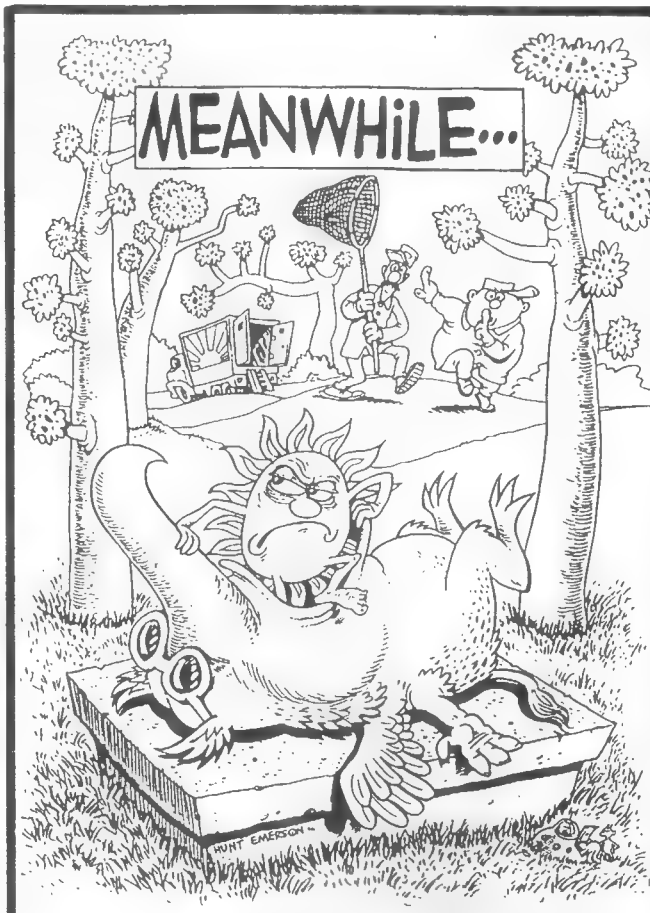
"It also includes a membership card, a response card, a letter of welcome [also unsurprisingly signed by Tucci], a newsletter and a few other surprises. Fans send back the reply card and they'll be registered in the club," Tucci concluded. The kit also includes a Shi Happens badge.

Members will receive the Crusade newsletter throughout 1997. This carries the latest Crusade news along with promotions for Crusade products exclusive to club members.

The Event Comics Fan Club kit provides members with a foil-stamped, gold hologram edition of **Ash #0** (also exclusive to the club), an *Ash* chromium trading card, a 7x10" black and white print of the cover from the **Kid Death and Fluffy Spring Break Special**, signed by the artists Joe Quesada and Jimmy Palmiotti (another exclusive), a full-colour postcard featuring Ash and the rare Mitch O'Connell alternative cover to **22 Brides #3.**

Members will also receive the first annual Event Comics fan club membership card along with advance information on forthcoming Event projects.

*The Shi Fan Club Boxed Kit, priced $19.95, and the Event Comics Fan Club, priced $29.95, ship in April.*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# DC presents the future,

**AMID a flurry of new titles, DC Comics is exploring a range of subjects. This issue, we preview three titles covering the science fiction future, the consequences of violence, and DC Universe super-heroes drawn in a manga style.**

## 2020 Vision

Scottish artist Frank Quitely, last seen drawing Grant Morrison's **Flex Mentallo** mini-series for DC Comics' Vertigo imprint, has teamed up with Northampton's Jamie Delano (author of **Batman: Manbat** and **Hellblazer**) on the first three issues of a new Vertigo project, 2020 Vision.

Set in the year 2020, this is a 12-issue mini-series made up of four three-part story arcs. Each arc will relate the story of one of four generations of Americans struggling to survive in the post-millenial chaos that is the Disunited States of America.

Like Quitely, each of the artists on this series has drawn previous Vertigo titles.

The first story is titled *Lust for Life*. Brighton's Warren (**Mobfire**) Pleece will illustrate the second — *La Tormenta* — with the third — *Desperado* — being drawn by James (**Seven Miles a Second**) Romberger. The final story arc — *Repro-Man* — will be illustrated by another Brit, Steve (**Preacher: Saint of Killers**) Pugh.

WHAT'S WITH YOU, WOCHEK? YOU FOUND SOME NEW KINDA DOPE TO TWIST-UP YOUR WEASEL MIND...?
YOU WANNA FIGHT WITH SOMEONE, GO OUT AN' SPIT ON A COP

## Titans: Scissors, Paper, Stone

ADAM Warren — best known for his work on Dark Horse's **Dirty Pair** turns to futuristic super-hero fare with **Titans: Scissors, Paper, Stone.**

This 48-page *Elseworlds* one-shot, set in the far future, is both written and pencilled by Warren, in his usual manga style.

The story concerns a young mage, Jamadagni, who discovers that the space colony on which

CRAZY, BUT I REALLY BELIEVED HAVIN' A WOMAN IN THE WHITE HOUSE WOULD MAKE A DIFFERENCE. LIKE, LAY A COOL MATERNAL HAND ON THE FUCKED-UP CULTURE'S MILLENNIUM-FEVERED BROW
YOU SHOULDA KNOWN SOON AS THEY OUTLAWED THIS STUFF AGAIN, THAT A DEPRAVED OLD FUCK-BOOK EDITOR WAS GONNA GET SHUT OUTTA PARADISE PRETTY DAMN QUICK... NOUVEAU-LESBIAN, OR NOT.
YOU DID OKAY, THOUGH...
I WORKED WITH WHAT I HAD. YOU CAN'T GET IN THE FRONT DOOR, YOU HAVE TO SNEAK AROUND THE BACK, Y'KNOW...
WHAT...? WHY'RE YOU LOOKING AT ME THAT WAY?
WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU, LOVER?
WHADDYA MEAN? NOTHING WRONG WITH ME!
I WAS JUST REMEMBERIN' STUFF, Y'KNOW?
LIKE WHAT?
LIKE HOW GOOD IT USETA BE WITH YOU... BEFORE YOU GOT A TASTE FOR PUSSY, AN' THREW ME OVER FOR ALL YOUR DIKEY LITTLE DARLINGS...
THANK YOU THANK
AND I'M LIKE E. COYOTE RUNNING OFF OF THE CLIFF TERRIBLE REALIZATION RE: SUSPENDED LAW OF GRAVITY
UNDER MANHATTAN PUBLIC HEALTH STATUTE 3066/49 ARE DEEMED A CATEGORY ONE BIO-HAZARD AND LIABLE TO IMMEDIATE SEGREGATION AND MEDICAL OBSERVATION IN A STATE-APPROVED QUARANTINE FACILITY
YOUR SAFETY AND COMFORT ARE A PRIORITY. PLEASE BE COOPERATIVE WHILE WE PREPARE YOU FOR TRANSPORTATION
YOU'VE GOTTA BE KIDDING...
TO BE CONTINUED

*Top left and bottom left:* Two Frank Quitely pages from the futuristic 12-issue Vertigo mini-series, **2020 Vision**. Written by Jamie Delano, it is a family saga following four generations through post-millenial America. *Bottom right (this page) and bottom left (facing page):* In **Teen Titans: Scissors, Paper, Stone**, DC presents its first original manga-style title as Adam Warren writes and draws this *Elseworlds* story in which a future team of Titans must save a space colony from invasion by monstrous creatures. *Top right (facing page) and bottom right (facing page):* Vince Locke's art for the new Paradox Press graphic novel, **A History of Violence**.

# the past and US manga

she resides is about to be invaded by monstrous warbeasts.

Looking into the distant past, she finds the weapons she needs to defeat the invaders in the heroes known as the Titans.

Taking a tormented cyborg, an urban avenger and an alien energy being, she recreates the Titans to try to save her world.

JEEZ, AND I WAS HOPING THAT MY SEXUAL MAGNETISM WAS SUDDENLY WORKING ON YOU AGAIN.
KEEP DREAMING, JOCKO!
AH, WELL OKAY, I'LL BE YOUR DUMB OL' MEAT PUPPET IF YOU THINK IT'S ABSO NECESSARY. JACK IN THAT CONSTRUCT.

Inking the story is Warren's regular **Dirty Pair** collaborator, Tom Simmons.

## *A History of Violence*

CAN anyone ever escape a past marred by violence? Can a man reinvent himself?

Those are questions posed by the co-creator of Judge Dredd and The Button Man, John Wagner in the forthcoming 296-page **A History of Violence** graphic novel.

Drawn by Vince Locke — creator of **Deadworld** and occasional artist on **The Sandman** — this 5.5x8" black and white book is being published by DC's Paradox Press Graphic Mystery division.

**A History of Violence** relates the story of a Manhattan teen who tried to rob the Mob.

In the aftermath of that robbery, he stole the eye from one of gangland's most sadistic killers, losing a finger in the process.

Now, 20 years later, he is a respected citizen and family man running a small town-diner. When a couple of thugs try to rob it, he beats them senseless and becomes a local hero.

As a result of all the media attention, the Mob becomes aware of his whereabouts and the still-living one-eyed killer comes looking for him. Around his neck, he's wearing Tom's finger and he's seeking retribution.

***2020 Vision #1**, priced $2.25, ships on March 19. **Titans: Scissors, Paper, Stone**, priced $4.95, ships on March 5. **A History of Violence**, priced $9.95, ships on February 20.*

NOTHIN'!
SHE HAD TWENTY BUCKS.
IT AIN'T ENOUGH!
BOOM BOOM BOOM
YOU TWO-BIT SCUMSUCKERS! TWENTY BUCKS AIN'T GOOD ENOUGH! WHAT DO YOU THINK WE KILL YOU FOR?
EASY, BILLY! WE'LL GET US SOME MORE!
THERE'S A LITTLE TOWN UP AHEAD. MAYBE WE COULD PULL A STICK-UP...

LITTLE SHIT! MOUTH OFF TO ME AGAIN AN' I'LL KILL YOU!
C'MON, MR TORRINO TONY DIDN'T MEAN NOTHIN', OKAY?
ANYWAY, HE'S GOT A POINT. IF THIS GEEK AIN'T JOEY, WHY DON'T WE JUST SCRAM, HUH?
NO! IT'S HIM! I JUST GOT TO BE SURE. THAT'S ALL...!
THEN WE'RE GONNA HAVE TO FLUSH HIM OUT.
IT'S TIME TA TURN UP THE HEAT.

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## OPENS MIDDAY

# CARD NEWS

*Few comic shop owners would deny that collectors now consider trading cards and customisable card games (CCGs) a key part of the market. As such, **Comics International** features Card News each issue, looking at news in the non-sports area of this growing hobby.*

## Inkworks: 007, Sliders, Mask

INKWORKS — producers of *The James Bond Connoisseur's Collection* cards — has revealed its initial line-up of movie and TV licenses for 1997.

On the movie front, collectors can expect card sets based on: *Men in Black* — the movie adaptation of the Aircel (Malibu) comic starring Tommy Lee Jones and Will Smith and *Starship Troopers* — director Paul (*Total Recall*) Verhooven's version of Robert A. Heinlein's classic science fiction novel

In addition, Inkworks is releasing the final two volumes in *The James Bond Connoisseur's Collection* and a set — based on the next James Bond movie, *Avatar* — called simply *Bond 18*.

During 1997, Inkworks will also produce at least four sets based on television series:

- *Kratt's Creatures*, the highly acclaimed kids' series that mixes *National Geographic*-quality imagery with MTV-style editing.
- *The Mask* — the animated series based on the hit movie based on the comic (!).
- *Sliders* — the Fox science fiction/adventure series.
- *Clueless* — ABC-TV's popular Friday night US series based on the film.

"Although we are expanding and securing more licences, Inkworks still offers an unparalleled guarantee and commitment to the hobby and individual consumers," said Inkworks president and CEO Allan Caplan. "We made huge strides in the licensing and trading card industries during our first year, and we will not let up."

"Inkworks is not just another trading card company," he added. "We are fans and collectors as well as industry representatives. That's why we are the best."

## Master of chromium

**KROME Productions follows up its last two highly-successful *Evil Ernie* sets from 1994 and 1995 with the 90 card *Evil Ernie. Master of Annihilation* chromium trading card set.**

Among the artists contributing are Steven (**Lady Death**) Hughes, Justiniano, Jim (**Catwoman**) Balent, Brom, Jason Jensen, Jack Gray, Joseph Michael (**Dawn**) Linsner, Brad Parker, Steve (**Tyrant**) Bissette, Greg Luzniak, Mark Pennington, Nat Jones, David Brewer, Georges Jeanty, Flint Henry, and Evil Ernie creator Brian Pulido.

Apart from Evil Ernie, among other Chaos! Comics characters featured in the set are Chastity, Lady Death, Cremator and Homicide.

The set comes in boxes of 36 packs with each pack containing five cards and one NecroChrome sticker.

There are various chase cards including three state-of-the-art chromium cards (allocated three per box), three Real-O-Rama cards (one per box), and one rare Psycho-Apocalypse card (two per case).

There are also four autographed cards — each limited to 500 — signed in red ink by Brian Pulido, Steven Hughes, Justiniano, and Jason Jensen.

As an additional bonus, each box will contain one of five mega-sized Necro-Chrome cards.

***Evil Ernie: Master of Annihilation** trading card set ships in April.*


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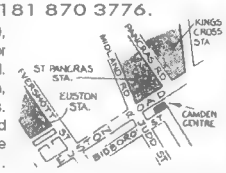


REVISED CARD MART DATES FOR 1997: 6TH APRIL, (RNH), (CC), 1ST JUNE (RNH), 20TH JULY (CC), 31ST AUGUST (CC), 5TH OCTOBER (RNH),16TH NOVEMBER (CC), 7TH DECEMBER (RNH).
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# COMIC STRIP ARTIST?

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We want hardworking, talented artists, writers and inkers to join our team of daily narrative comic strip illustrators.

If you are skilled in mainstream comic-book illustration styles and can work fast and to deadline, we'd like you to show us how you would fill a page to our requirements.

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1. Find some newspaper stories that attract your attention. They could be domestic, dramatic, funny or trivial. We'd like to see what those stories might look like if they had happened in "Comic land" instead of the real world. Translate them into sci fi or action adventure or horror or war or superhero genres. Use your imagination.

2. Illustrate one or two longer stories, or five or six shorter stories, so they fill a page. Add title boxes, speech bubbles and captions, as necessary, to explain the context.

3. Send A3 photocopies of your finished designs together with the original newspaper stories that you based them on.

4. If you work in more than one style, feel free to send us more than one submission. But please don't send examples of your previous work in other publications.

5. Get your submissions to us by Monday, 3rd March.

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# HOT SHOTS

*Every month* ***Comics International*** *picks ten new titles from the issues's advance listings of titles on sale in two months. Will they be big sellers, hot titles or overstocks destined for the 10p bins in a year? Only time and sales will tell!*

### ☺ Adventures in the DC Universe 1

*(DC: Steve Vance & John Delaney + Ron Boyd; $1.75)*

Both DC and Marvel continue to aim at new readers through these animation-styled "adventures" titles, but little has shown the quality and originality of the initial run of **Batman Adventures**. *Prediction:* Limited appeal to hardened fans, but a great way for shops to bring in new young readers. Not for investment!

### ☺☺ Angel Fire 1

*(Crusade; Bill Tucci + Dan Mishkin & Roberto Flores; $2.95)*

Can Bill Tucci do it again? The success of **Shi** has enabled the New York creator turned publisher to expand his line of comics, although none have had the impact of his initial title. But with its **Tomoe** preview, the manga-influenced art style of Roberto Flores and Tucci's reputation for solid storytelling, if nothing else, this should be an enjoyable read. *Prediction:* A sleeper, at best.

### ☺☺ Azrael/Ash

*(DC: Dennis O'Neil & Joe Quesada + Jimmy Palmiotti; $4.95)*

The thing that sets this above many of the other cross-company team-ups is the artwork of Joe Quesada. More likely to be a success on the strength of **Ash** rather than **Azrael**, this creative team made the headlines with its **Sword of Azrael** mini-series and could well score another big success with this one. *Prediction:* A long shelf life and an immediate impact!

### ☺ Batman/Aliens 1

*(Dark Horse; Ron Marz & Bernie Wrightson; $4.95)*

This two-parter is likely to be overshadowed by **Azrael/Ash** despite its creative team and main stars. Aliens titles have been diluted by volume, while Batman's overexposure has equally weakened the character's popularity. But artist Wrightson, thanks to his long history with both characters and his strong over-30s following, could add a boost to this latest inter-company team-up. *Prediction:* Little appeal to '90s fans but a guaranteed minority audience.

### ☺ Ka-Zar 1

*(Marvel: Mark Waid & Andy Kubert; $2.95)*

Doubtful this will be a long term. The high profile creators insure it will have a good start, but will they stay? *Prediction:* A short-term middling success, at best. Top team wasted on a regularly failed character.

### ☺ Resurrection Man 1

*(DC: Dan Abnett + Andy Lanning & Jackson Guice; $2.25)*

This is a tough one. All indications are that this will sink without a trace, but it has an interesting premise — superhuman who dies and is reborn with a different power. Abnett and Lanning are still searching for that elusive mega-hit, while Guice needs to get back to his best after his perfunctory run on **Action Comics**. *Prediction:* Worth keeping an eye on.

### ☺☺ Sin City: Sex & Violence

*(Dark Horse; Frank Miller; $2.95)*

Miller's film noir title has been a massive success, guaranteeing this latest one-shot a solid audience. Along with Mike Mignola and Art Adams, Miller has been the saving grace of Dark Horse's Legends line. *Prediction:* Another good long-term seller.

### ☺ Superman 123

*(DC: Dan Jurgens & Ron Frenz + Josef Rubinstein; $1.95)*

Here's a rarity: the first comic in the *Hot Shots* lists that isn't a one-shot or a first issue — although it is a new beginning (of sorts). Will the new-look Superman appeal to the fans? Is this the way for the ailing comics giant to re-establish his lost readership? We doubt it. *Prediction:* He'll be back in his old colours by this time next year!

### ☺ Trinity Angels 1

*(Acclaim: Kevin Maguire + Dan Panosian; $2.50)*

Acclaim's revamped Valiant Heroes line is proving interesting and this unknown title should determine whether once fan-favourite Maguire is still a crowd-puller, as it has only his name to sell on. If up to his usual high standard, it should be money well spent. *Prediction:* Worth a flutter!

### ☺ Vampirella vs Pantha 1

*(Harris: Mark Millar & Mark Texeira; $2.95)*

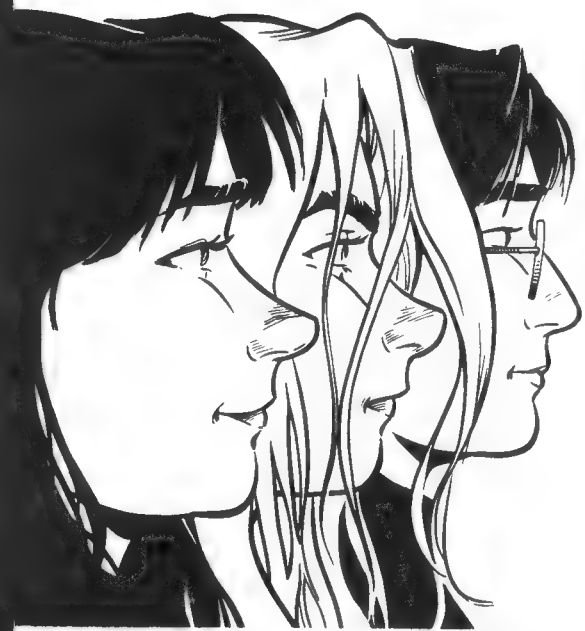
Harris appears to be throwing a lot of money at **Vampirella** resulting in her profile having been raised immensely. This one-shot is basically a "hot-babe" book, but Millar is sure to have constructed a story around all the sexy pictures. Mark Texeira still has a lot of fans from his **Wolverine** days and this could be a difficult title to find in a couple of months.

# Terry Moore

creator of

# Strangers In Paradise

## will be appearing at Page 45 on Friday March 14th 4pm-8pm



IT'S A *good* LIFE!

(Terry's graphic novels are always on sale at Page 45 along with the widest selection of comics in the country. If you are unable to visit us we do offer a prompt mail-order service as well as a reliable standing order service. Details from the address below.)

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PAGE 45

# ADVANCE LISTINGS

*READERS: You can use this Advance Listings section as an order form with your direct sale retailer or mail order supplier. Simply mark the items you require, preferably in red or blue pen or with a highlight marker. Then detach this section of the magazine and return it to your supplier, together with a note of your name, address and phone number and guarantee not to collect any of the new titles being published. Certain retailers may not accept standing orders, so check with them first. This system will also help your supplier when ordering titles, to know which are presold.*

*All prices of US titles listed are in dollars. Where dollar and sterling prices (ie $1.50/£1) is stated, UK price is not the air-freighted import price, but instead denotes that the title will be nationally distributed approximately ten weeks later at a lower-than-airfreight price. Import prices are usually converted at a rate of $1.00 = 85p.*

*Shipping dates given are usually one week before airfreight copies arrive with your retailer/mail order supplier. All dates, prices and information are assumed to be accurate as provided by publishers. Late shipping, cancellations and changes in content will be detailed in future issues of* ***Comics International****.* *Compiled by Phil Hall*

*Key to abbreviations used:*
*1 & 2 + 3 = Writer & penciller + inker*
*b&w = black & white content*
*hbk = hardback (book) edition*
*tpbk = trade paperback, squarebound, comic size*
*Xpg = number of interior pages*
All comics are 32 page colour titles unless stated otherwise

SHIPPING:
## MARCH - APRIL

### AARDVARK-VANAHEIM

☐ **Cerebus 216** (Dave Sim & Gerhard) *Guys, Part 16* (of 19). Depending on your point of view, a female character makes her first appearance... or returns, creating some interesting twists and turns in Cerebus' ongoing internal dialogue. b&w . . . . . $2.25

### AC COMICS

NEW ☐ **Femforce: The Yesterday Syndrome 1** (of 3; Bill Black & Brad Gorby + Mark Heike) Picking up at the exact point in time where **Femforce** #100 ended, this issue relaunches the all-girl superteam. b&w 44pg . . . . . $4.95

ONE-SHOT ☐ **Fighting Yank Retro Comics 1** (various) New stories featuring actual Golden Age characters set in the 1940s and 1950s in the traditional style. Featured characters include Fighting Yank, Big Guy, the Panda and Kid Quick. b&w 40pg . . . . . $5.95

### ACADEMY COMICS LTD

☐ **Mobile Armor Halberder 3** (John & Jason Waltrip) Aerin and Rieann infiltrate Baron Darkwell's planet fortress to retrieve the stolen crystal consignment. . . . . $2.95

### ACCLAIM COMICS

NEW ☐ **Bloodshot 1** (Len Kaminski & Sal Velluto + Jeff Albrecht) He was once called Raymond Garrison, he was also known as Angelo Mortalli. He's now known as Bloodshot... and he is the walking dead.$2.50

☐ **Magnus 3** (Tom Peyer & Mike McKone + Mark McKenna) Damon Angel has the Good Shepherd in his hands, ready to pull him apart and see what makes the future tick. Magnus has a crisis of conscience. $2.50

☐ **Ninjak 5** (Kurt Busiek & Neil Vokes + Michael Avon Oeming) The Dark Dozen is making alliances with the New York mobs. Ninjak needs to stop it, but unfortunately, he's been grounded . . . . . $2.50

☐ **Quantum and Woody 2** (Christopher Priest & Mark Bright + Greg Adams) The two heroes are searching for a murderer. What lengths will this mismatched duo go to uncover the killer? . . . . . $2.50

FINAL ISSUE ☐ **Quantum Leap 3** (of 3; Bill Messner-Loebs & Javier Saltares) Based on the hugely successful alternate Earths TV series. . . . . $2.50

☐ **Shadowman 5** (Jamie Delano & Charles Adlard) The new Shadowman faces a familiar new threat. The dead man with a mission just happens to be Jack Boniface, the original Shadowman. Mature readers. . . . $2.50

NEW ☐ **Trinity Angels 1** (Kevin Maguire + Dan Panosian) Three sisters wake up one morning to find that their bodies have been altered and they now possess powers linked to earth, fire and sky. . . . . $2.50

☐ **Troublemakers 4** (Fabian Nicieza & Kenny Martinez) What would you do if you saw your mother kissing another man? Blur has to deal with this problem when his voyeuristic tendencies backfire on him. . . . . $2.50

☐ **X-O Manowar 6** (Mark Waid + Brian Augustyn & Scot Eaton + Pam Eklund) The X-O suit is under the control of the power-mad entity called Internaut. Magnus shows up to lend a hand against the rampaging empty battle suit. . . . . $2.50

### AMAZE INK/SLAVE LABOR

NEW ☐ **abel 1** (William Harms & Mark Bloodworth + Troy Zurel) Set in Friend, Nebraska, during WWII, abel is the story of racism, betrayal and murder. b&w Mature readers. . . . . $2.95

NEW ☐ **Beer & Roaming in Las Vegas** (F. Andrew Taylor) The story's hero is chased by mad Elvis impersonators, a monkey and his weird master, and a mean-spirited woman — all because some freak yokel gave him a cowboy hat. sc 88pg b&w . . . . . $12.95

☐ **Dork 4** (Evan Dorkin) The first new comic from Dorkin in well over a year. Features the Eisner Award-winning *Eltingville Club* and *Marathon Men*, a story about a group of people who scheme to stay up an entire 36 hours for a *Twilight Zone* marathon — with tragic results. b&w . . . . . $2.75

☐ **Slacker Comics 13** (Doug Slack) Randy goes under the needle and gets tattooed. 24pg b&w . . . . . $2.95

NEW ☐ **Space Hustlers 1** (Steve Owen) The first issue introduces Heron, the leader of a group of superheroes who is a little lacking in leadership skills. b&w 24pg . . . . . $2.95

☐ **Skeleton Key 20** (Andi Watson) Continuing the series of self-contained single issue stories. b&w 16pg . . . . . $1.75

### ANTARCTIC PRESS

☐ **Box Office Poison 4** (Alex Robinson) Things come to a head as Jane finally explodes and tells Shermon what an evil she-devil his girlfriend is. Mature readers. b&w . . . . . $2.95

☐ **Furrlough 51** (various) The longest running anthropomorphic comic continues with an instalment of *Ninjara* and part three of Shon Howell's *Danger Bunnies*. b&w . . . . . $2.95

NEW ☐ **Haana 1** (Derek Kirk) Introducing the wigwam dwelling Kwayii people and more specifically the Syra twins: Nuna and Hyunas. Love is in the air and the twins' friend is getting married. b&w . . . $2.95

☐ **Hepcats 4** (Martin Wagner) Reprinting the critically-acclaimed series, plus the fourth part of the prequel to the next story arc. Mature readers. $2.95

NEW ☐ **Luftwaffe 1946 #1** (Ben Dunne & Ted Nomura) A year after the last series Hitler and the Nazis are still winning the war but are being pounded by the Americans and the Soviets. Himmler convinces Hitler to create a kamikaze force to tip the scales of war. b&w . . . . . $2.95

☐ **Ninja High School 56** (Fred Perry) The **NHS/Gold Digger** crossover races towards a conclusion as Gina and Celande attempt to return to their own time using holes in time. $2.95

NEW ☐ **Robotech 1** (Fred Perry & Ben Dunne) A new comic based on one of the original anime series and following the continuity established by previous publishers. The crew of SDF-1 unwittingly stumble upon a secret Zentraedi base. . . . . $2.95

FINAL ISSUE ☐ **Warrior Nun Areala: Scorpio Rose 4** (of 4; Steve Englehart & Ben Dunn) The two heroines invade the Vatican to fight a conspiracy that reaches beyond the Pope himself! $2.95

☐ **Warrior Nun Dei: Aftertime 2** (of 3; Patrick Thornton) After realising that her "God"-given powers were only endowed by Father Caedius' technology, Dei goes on a suicidal mission and attempts to destroy the entire Hinterland base. . . . . $2.95

### BONGO COMICS

☐ **Roswell: Little Green Man 3** (Bill Morrison) Trapped on a miniature golf course and surrounded by half the US army, Roswell makes a daring escape. But will Julienne and Dagnabbit find a way to save him before he winds up in a jar behind the Ark of the Covenant? . . . . . $2.95

### BRAINSTORM COMICS

NEW ☐ **Bodacious Comix 1** (various) Brainstorm claims that, "Each issue will bring you sexy adult tales of well-endowed, lethal ladies in non-stop action... in and out of bed!" The first issue features the sexy sleuth Bonita Day, Private Eye. Mature readers. $2.95/$3.95

☐ **Vamperotica 25** (Kirk Lindo & various) Guest starring Everette Hartsoe's Razor. Mature readers. . . . . $2.95/$3.95

ONE-SHOT ☐ **Vampfire: Pin-Up Special** (various) Featuring one-page drawings by Fauve, Jim Balent, Frank Thorne, Kirk Liñdo and many more. Mature. $2.95/$3.95

### CALIBER PRESS

ONE-SHOT ☐ **Daemonstorm: Oz** (Ralph

Griffith + Stuart Kerr & Tim Holtrop + Ray Snyder + David Boller) When the Daemonstorm makes its way into Oz, it chooses the most unlikely subject to work its evil deeds. 48pg .... $3.95

NEW ☐ **High Caliber 1** (various) Two complete, full-length stories in one issue. Reprinting some of the best stories in Caliber's eight year history. 64pg b&w ..... $3.95

☐ **Jinx 7** (Brian Michael Bendis) Jinx drops into the middle of a full blown gang war to save the skin of her boyfriend, Goldfish. Mature readers. b&w ... $2.95

☐ **Level X #2** (Dan Harbison & Randy Buccini + Ray Snyder) The dreamers find themselves in what appears to be late 14th Century Europe facing the threat of the Black Death. b&w $2.95

☐ **The Lost 3** (Marc Andreyko & Mark Ricketts + various) The alternative *Peter Pan* story continues as Wendy faces the final step in her transformation into one of the Lost. b&w $2.95

☐ **Moebius Comics 6** (Moebius & various) The concluding chapter of *The Still Planet* and storyboards from the abandoned movie project *Internal Transfer*. b&w ..... $2.95

☐ **Negative Burn 45** (various) Anthology including Brian Bolland's *Mr Mamoulian*; Darko Macan & Edvin Biukovic's *The Ripper*; *Ragmop* by Rob Walton; *Divine Winds* by Jeff Lang & Chris McLoughlin; *Mr Drawing Board Belly* by Paul Fricke & Don Simpson. b&w 40pg $3.95

ONE-SHOT ☐ **Nowheresville Special: The History of Cool** (Mark Ricketts) Mr Queeg chronicles the effects of "cool" on people and how different degrees of coolness can affect a person in later life. A collection of Mr Queeg's observations. b&w ..... $2.95

☐ **Oz 20** (Ralph Griffith & Stuart Kerr + Tim Haltrop + various) Jack Pumpkinhead and Jinjur are the unfortunate witnesses to a confrontation between the Goblin King and the Wickedest Witch. b&w .. $2.95

NEW ☐ **Oz: Straw & Sorcery 1** (of 3; Ralph Griffith + Stuart Kerr & Bill Bryan) The Scarecrow wants revenge against Scraps and sets the Freedom Fighters up for a big fall. b&w ..... $2.95

☐ **The Searchers: Apostle of Mercy 2** (of 4; Colin Clayton + Chris Dows & Art Wetherell) London's burning! Martian war machines terrorise the capital and Geneva Walcott Fogg is running for her life. b&w ..... $2.95

NEW ☐ **St. Germaine 1** (Gary Reed & Vincent Locke) He has been present during all the ages of mankind. He is a being who claims immortality, but has died a thousand deaths. He is St. Germaine and death to him is nothing more than a state of consciousness. (Cover variant available) b&w ..... $2.95

## CARTOON BOOKS

☐ **Bone 28** (Jeff Smith) Beginning the *Rockjaw: Master of the Eastern Border* storyline. b&w ..... $2.95

## CHAOS COMICS

☐ **Chastity 2** (of 3; Brian Pulido & Justiniano) Chastity must adopt a variety of personas to assassinate a cabal of powerful bloodsuckers. ..... $2.95

ONE-SHOT ☐ **Homicide 1** (Hart Fisher & Bim Scott + Rob Stull) Homicide is the popular supporting character from **Evil Ernie**. The dead assassin ventures across America and into the East Coast Deadlands. ..... $2.95

NEW ☐ **Suspira: The Great Working 1** (of 4; Phil Nutman & Mike Okamoto) Fully-painted mini-series linking directly into **Lady Death** continuity. Due to a mishap, Felicia Valez is eternally bound to the demon Glazbolaz. She must overcome the darkness within or fall prey to Epitaph, Lady Death's herald of megadeath.. ..... $2.95

## CFD PRODUCTIONS

NEW ☐ **Meg-A-Rotica 1** (various) First in a series of surreal, violent and sexually explicit horror stories which is a comic book on CD-ROM. For Mac and PC users. $4.95/$7.95

## CRUSADE

NEW ☐ **Angel Fire 1** (Bill Tucci & Dan Mishkin + Roberto Flores) Following the adventures of government agent Anastasia Pizer who's involved in the world of intrigue and espionage. ..... $2.95

FINAL ISSUE ☐ **Shi: Rekishi 2** (Bill Tucci & Chris Golden + J.G. Jones) The conclusion of the ultimate Shi sourcebook. Joe Labianca delves further into the mystery surrounding the warrior. . $2.95

## DARK HORSE

*Dark Horse titles*

ONE-SHOT ☐ **Aliens: Pig** (Chuck Dixon & Flint Henry) Space salvage experts want to pilfer a downed ship carrying a valuable cargo. The only problem is that it's infested with an alien hive. So they rig a young piglet with a nuclear bomb and send it in as a decoy to destroy the aliens. *[26/03/97]* ..... $2.95

☐ **Barry Windsor-Smith: Storyteller 6** (Barry Windsor-Smith w/various) Continuing the adventures of *The Young Gods*, *Paradox Man* and *The Freebooters*. 40pg Mature readers. *[12/03/97]* ..... $4.95

NEW ☐ **Batman/Aliens 1** (of 2; Ron Marz & Bernie Wrightson) Batman heads for South America to find a missing employee of Wayne Industries. Instead of finding his man he finds a nest of aliens. 48pg *[12/03/97]* ..... $4.95

☐ **Comic book 3** (John Kricfalusi + various) Jimmy the Idiot Boy has his hands full when he's left in charge of his own offspring for the very first time. *[19/03/97]* ..... $2.95

☐ **Dark Horse Classics: Aliens Versus Predator 2** (of 6; Randy Stradley & Phil Norwood + Karl Story) Retelling the award-winning aliens team-up from 1989. *[19/03/97]* ..... $2.95

☐ **Dark Horse Presents 119** (various) Anthology: *Hectic Planet* (Evan Dorkin); *Monkeyman & O'Brien* (Arthur Adams); *Bill the Clown* (Troy Nixey). Mature readers. *[12/03/97]* ..... $2.95

ONE-SHOT ☐ **Dark Horse Short-Story Collection** (various) Seven stories featuring Dark Horse favourites. *[16/04/97]* ... $2.95

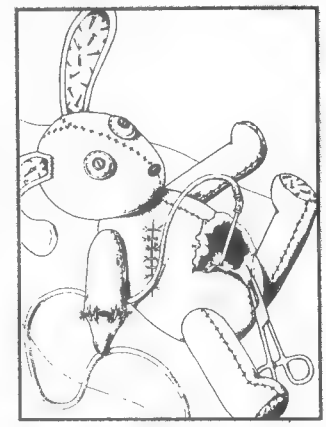
☐ **Edgar Rice Burroughs' Tarzan 9** (Allan Gross & Chris Schenck + George Freeman) Tarzan faces renegade Nazis, warrior jungle women and a mind-controlling emerald. *[05/03/97]* ..... $2.95

NEW ☐ **Elric: Stormbringer 1** (of 7; P. Craig Russell) The return of Moorcock's legendary hero to comics form by the man best associated with Elric over the last 10 years. *[05/03/97]* .... $2.95

☐ **Ghost 23** (Eric Luke + Ivan Reis & Randy Emberlin) Ghost has finally unlocked the secrets of the mob's underground city, but she has also discovered another, far more sinister, secret. *[12/03/97]* ..... $2.50

☐ **Lords of Misrule 3** (of 6; Dan Abnett + John Tomlinson & Steve White + Peter Snejbjerg) Jack didn't kill Jo Hanlon, or so he claims. But the police don't believe him and the human-sized dog monsters keep trying to kill him. b&w Mature readers. *[19/03/97]* ..... $2.95

ONE-SHOT ☐ **The Ninth Gland** (Renee French) Disturbing tale about Pearl: the discovery she makes in her yard and the weird man she shares her secrets with in the basement of the local hospital. b&w 48pg Mature readers. *[26/03/97]* ..... $3.95



FINAL ISSUE ☐ **Predator: Kindred 4** (of 4; Scott Tolson + Jason Lamb + Roger Petersen & Bruce Patterson) The monster visits Fleener Creek and the residents will not be sleeping soundly for a long time. *[19/03/97]* ... $2.50

☐ **Usagi Yojimbo 11** (Stan Sakai) Usagi Yojimbo's crosses paths with a mysterious swords-man with a lightning fast samurai blade. 24pg b&w *[26/03/97]* 2.95

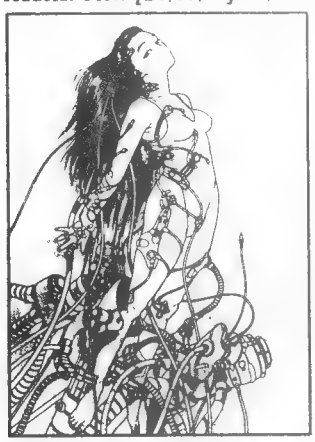
ONE-SHOT ☐ **The Warrior of Waverley Street: Broodstorm** (Manny Coto & John Stokes) Acting as a scene-setter for the forthcoming film, giving background on the film and the two-part Dark Horse

comics series. *[05/03/97]* $2.95

ONE-SHOT ☐ **Wolverton in Space** (Basil Wolverton) A collection of Wolverton's great space adventures. 232pg sc b&w *[02/04/97]* . . . . . $16.95

### *Dark Horse Manga titles*

☐ **Chronowar 8** (of 9; Kazumasa Takayama) Chiaki and Watanabe battle on top of Tokyo. Can Machida, paralysed by Watanabe's machine guns, save the woman he loves? Mature readers. b&w *[20/03/97]* . $2.95



☐ **Drakuun: Rise of the Dragon Princess 2** (Johji Manabe) Karula's attempted assassination of Gustav has gone sour and now she is trapped behind enemy lines. *[12/03/97]* . . . . . $2.95

☐ **Oh My Goddess Part IV #3: The Trials of Morisato 3** (of 3; Kosuke Fujishima) Urd is back to normal and is finding it difficult to repay Keiichi for all the help he gave her. *[26/03/97]* . $2.95

### *Legend creator-owned titles*

ONE-SHOT ☐ **Sin City: Sex & Violence** (Frank Miller) Introducing Delia, a hitwoman on her first mission. Her only problem is she is slightly preoccupied and liable to make a mistake. Mature readers. *[26/03/97]* . . . . . $2.95

### *Star Wars licensed titles*

NEW ☐ **Dark Horse Classics: Star Wars — Dark Empire 1** (of 6; Tom Veitch & Cam Kennedy) Reprinting the ground-breaking series. *[20/03/97]* . . . . . $2.95

☐ **Star Wars: A New Hope — The Special Edition 3** (of 4; Bruce Jones & Eduardo Barreto + Al Williamson + James Sinclair) The remastered comics version of the *Star Wars* film. Features the extra footage. *[20/03/97]* . . . . . $2.95

NEW ☐ **Star Wars Classics: Han Solo At Stars' End 1** (of 3; Alfredo Alcala) Collection of rare newspaper strips based on the novel by Brian Daley. *[26/03/97]* . $2.95

## DC COMICS

### *Batman Family*

NEW ☐ **Anarky 1** (of 4; Alan Grant & Norm Breyfogle + Joe Rubinstein) Anarky journeys through the DC Universe to see what makes mankind tick and eventually comes up with a plan for saving humanity. *[19/03/97]* . . . $2.50

☐ **Azrael 29** (Denis O'Neil & Dougie Braithwaite + Jim Pascoe) Jean Paul is jilted by Sister Lilhy and Talia, Ra's Al Ghul's daughter, enters the scene. *[12/03/97]* . . . . . $1.95

ONE-SHOT ☐ **Azrael/Ash** (Dennis O'Neil & Joe Quesada + Jimmy Palmiotti) DC meets Event as the former Batman teams up with the fireman turned hero to vanquish the threat of a raging Norse god of fire. 48pg *[26/03/97]* . $4.95

☐ **Batman 542** (Doug Moench & Kelley Jones + John Beatty) The Batman encounters a villain that removes peoples' faces. *[12/03/97]* . . . . . $1.95

ONE-SHOT ☐ **Batman Chronicles Gallery 1** (various) Pin-ups by Jim Aparo, Bruce Timm, Walt Simonson, Lee Weeks, Brian Stelfreeze, Mike Zeck and many more. *[12/03/97]* . . . . . $3.50

☐ **Batman & Robin Adventures 18** (Ty Templeton & Brandon Kruse + Terry Beatty) Based on the Warner cartoon series. The Joker is in a slump and it doesn't matter what Harley Quinn does, she just can't put a smile back on father's face. *[19/03/97]* . $1.75

☐ **Batman: Legends of the Dark Knight 94** (Michael T. Gilbert) Gotham through the eyes of a writer who has had a contract put out on him. *[26/03/97]* . . . . . $1.95

☐ **Batman: The Long Halloween 6** (of 13; Jeph Loeb & Tim Sale) Poison Ivy and Catwoman become embroiled in the search for Holiday, the serial killer. *[19/03/97]* . . . . . $2.95

☐ **Batman: Shadow of the Bat 62** (Alan Grant & Dave Taylor + Stan Woch) Two Face escapes from Arkham Asylum and encounters Janus — a personality even more fragmented than his own. *05/03/97]* . . . . . $1.95

☐ **Batman/Wildcat 2** (of 3; Chuck Dixon + Beau Smith & Sergio Cariello + Art Thibert) Batman joins forces with Wildcat and the two discover secrets about each other's past. *[05/03/97]* . . . . . $2.25

☐ **Catwoman 45** (Doug Moench & Jim Balent + Ray McCarthy) An enemy of Selina's hires nine of the best assassins to take care of the threat of Catwoman. *[26/03/97]* . . . . . $1.95

☐ **Detective Comics 709** (Chuck Dixon & Graham Nolan + Bill Sienkiewicz) GunHawk and Deathstroke are hired by a vengeful mob boss with a number of prime contracts, including one on Lucius Fox. *[19/03/97]* . . . . . $1.95

☐ **Hitman 14** (Garth Ennis & John McCrea) The conclusion to *Zombie Night at the Aquarium* as Tommy and the boys battle cute little killer seals, blood-crazed dolphins and flesh devouring penguins. Oh, and don't forget the zombie killer sharks. *[26/03/97]* . . . . . $2.25

☐ **Nightwing 8** (Chuck Dixon & Scott McDaniel + Karl Story) Nightwing battles the crime lord of Bludhaven, but Dick is seriously outgunned and outweighed by the villain. *[05/03/97]* . . . . . $1.95

☐ **Robin 41** (Chuck Dixon & Staz Johnson + Bob Smith) Robin helps Ariana deal with her recent traumatic experience. The Spoiler goes after the thugs terrorising Gotham's business community. *[26/03/97]* . . $1.95

### *DC: Milestone imprint*

CANCELLED ☐ **Hardware 51** (Dwayne McDuffie & Prentis Rollins + Ken Branch) Hardware makes his final stand against E.D.W.I.N, but the most important battle he has is with himself. *[26/03/97]* $2.50

CANCELLED ☐ **Icon 45** (Dwayne McDuffie + Mark Bright & Romeo Tanghal) The final fate of the Milestone Universe is revealed and Rocket learns the truth about her future. *[05/03/97]* . . . $2.50

CANCELLED ☐ **Static 47** (Dwayne McDuffie & Jeff Moore + Hector Collazo) Virgil has to come to terms with the fact that after defeating the cosmic entity, Dakota might not need a superhero such as himself anymore. *[12/03/97]* . . . . . $2.50

### *DC Universe*

NEW ☐ **Adventures in the DC Universe 1** (Steve Vance & John Delaney + Ron Boyd) Following in the style of **Batman & Robin Adventures** and **Superman Adventures**, a new series featuring various different DC heroes and beginning with the JLA. . $1.75

☐ **Adventures in the DC Universe 2** (Steve Vance & John Delaney + Ron Boyd) The series begins its standard format of a lead story and a short back-up strip. This month The Flash and Catwoman. . . . . $1.75

☐ **Aquaman 32** (Peter David & Jim Calafiore + Peter Palmiotti) Aquaman comes face-to-face with Swamp Thing and the two team-up to battle the lethal villain Toxin. *[19/03/97]* . . . . . $1.75

CANCELLED ☐ **Aztek: The Ultimate Man 10** (Grant Morrison + Mark Millar & Steven Harris + Keith Champagne) Aztek gets a visit from the JLA. They decide whether or not team work is Aztek's future and the Q-society continues its manipulation of the hero. *[19/03/97]* . . . . . $1.75

☐ **The Book of Fate 4** (Keith Giffen & Ron Wagner + Bill Reinhold) Two Face guest stars in the *Chaos-Order War*. Fate meets the only man with equal parts of chaos and order in him. *[05/03/97]* . . . . . $2.25

☐ **Challengers of the Unknown 4** (Steven Grant + Len Kaminski & John Paul Leon + Shawn Martinborough) The Challengers' mysterious past is uncovered by a huckster called Nina Justis. *[19/03/97]* . . . . . $2.25

☐ **Flash 125** (Mark Waid + Brian Augustyn & Paul Ryan + John Nyberg) Flash realises that his new base of operations is close to the San Andreas fault and who should walk into town but Major Disaster — the old JLA villain. *[26/03/97]* . . $1.75

☐ **Green Arrow 120** (Chuck Dixon & William Rosado + Bob Campenella) Green Arrow plans to get some rest and relaxation. But, in traditional superhero fashion, he has anything but a

restful time. *[12/03/97]* . . $2.25

☐ **Green Lantern 86** (Ron Marz & Jeff Johnson + Romeo Tanghal) Alan Scott's daughter, Jade, joins the cast as she shows up in Green Lantern's apartment. Her brother Obsidian mistakes Kyle's intentions and the two are soon tearing up New York City. *[05/03/97]* . . . . . $1.75

☐ **Impulse 25** (Mark Waid & Humberto Ramos + Wayne Faucher) Bart and his mother return to the 30th Century and the first job they have is to release Iris's parents from prison. *[12/03/97]* . . . . . $1.75

☐ **Jack Kirby's Fourth World 3** (John Byrne) The New Gods journey to the Source and discover that they are not the only gods who inhabit the universe. Cover by Walt Simonson. *[12/03/97]* . . . $1.95

☐ **JLA 5** (Grant Morrison & Howard Porter + John Dell) The team holds a membership drive and Superman instantly recruits the mysterious Woman of Tomorrow only for her to show her true colours against a rampaging energy creature. *[05/03/97]* . . . . . $1.95

☐ **Legionnaires 48** (Tom Peyer + Tom McCraw & Jeffrey Moy + W.C Carani) Setting the scene for the 50th issue and the coming of the Dark Lord — a new major force for the 30th Century heroes to deal with. *[12/03/97]* . $2.25

☐ **Legion of Super-Heroes 92** (Tom Peyer & Tom McCraw + Lee Moder + Ron Boyd) The first in a series of a periodic tales called *Displaced in Time*. The story takes place in 1958, in an art class. A Legionnaire is trapped there after a disruption in the time stream. *[26/03/97]*$2.25

☐ **Lobo 39** (Alan Grant & Carl Critchlow) Lobo becomes a sailor in a tale resembling *Moby Dick*. *[19/03/97]* . . . . . $2.25

ONE-SHOT ☐ **Lobo: Chained** (Alan Grant & Rafael Garres) Lobo gets put in the baddest jail in the galaxy for being drunk and disorderly. *[05/03/97]* . . . $2.25

☐ **Power of Shazam 26** (Jerry Ordway & Peter Krause + Mike Manley) Continuing the saga of Fawcett City that was never-meant-to-be. The new Captain Marvel is framed for murder. *[05/03/97]* . . . . . $1.75

☐ **Night Force 6** (Marv Wolfman & Shawn Martinborough) Baron Winters' serial killer recruit is achieving results, but his own urges begin to get the better of him. *[12/03/97]* . . . . . $2.25

NEW ☐ **Resurrection Man 1** (Dan Abnett + Andy Lanning & Jackson Guice) Introducing Mitch Shelly — a metahuman who, every time he dies, manifests a new power in his rebirth. *[19/03/97]* . . $2.50

☐ **Scare Tactics 6** (Len Kaminski & Anthony Williams + Andy Lanning) The Tactics find themselves alone in the mountains and surrounded by werewolves. *[26/03/97]* . $2.25

☐ **The Shade 2** (of 4; James Robinson & J.H. Williams III + Mick Gray) The year is 1937 and The Shade has found his one true love — the only problem is that she is a Ludlow, his sworn enemies. *[12/03/97]* . . . . $2.25

☐ **Sovereign Seven 22** (Chris Claremont & Rom Lim + Chris Ivy + Dave Cockrum) Someone is picking off the team one by one. Meanwhile Clark Kent takes Cascade out on the town. *[12/03/97]* . . . . . $1.95

☐ **The Spectre 53** (John Ostrander & Tom Mandrake) Nate Kane discovers a 50-year old unsolved mystery that implicates Jim Corrigan. Corrigan wrestles with the notion that he is losing control of the Spectre. *[26/03/97]* . . . . . $2.50

☐ **Starman 30** (James Robinson & Tony Harris + Wade Von Grawbadger) Dr Pip, an eccentric bomber, terrorises Opal City. The only problem is that he seems to be bombing for pleasure, as he has made no demands. *[05/03/97]*. . . . . $2.25

☐ **Teen Titans 8** (Dan Jurgens & George Perez) The team attempts to pick itself up after being beaten by Dark Nemesis. *[26/03/97]* . . . . . $1.95

ONE-SHOT ☐ **Titans: Scissors, Paper, Stone** (Adam Warren) *Elseworlds* story told in a manga style. The classic Titans team is grabbed and taken to the future to save a dying planet from invasion. 48pg *[05/03/97]* . . . . . $4.95

☐ **Wonder Woman 121** (John Byrne) Wonder Woman's body is slowly turning to clay. *[26/03/97]* . . . . . $1.95

NEW ☐ **Xero 1** (Christopher Priest & Chriscross + Tom Simmons) Beginning the story of an entity that exists in two different worlds simultaneously. One persona is a football player, the other a deadly assassin. *[26/03/97]* . . . . $1.75

*DC licensed titles*

☐ **Animaniacs 25** (various) Based on the Warner TV cartoon. Slappy Squirrel blows Walter Wolf up. *[12/03/97]* . . . . $1.75

☐ **Looney Tunes 29** (various) More fun and adventures featuring the Warner cartoon characters in new stories. *[19/03/97]* . . . . . $1.50

☐ **Mad Magazine 356** (Usual Gang of Idiots) Movie spoof and inanity from Alfred's gang. b&w 48pg *[26/03/97]* . . . . . $2.50

☐ **Mad Super Special 120** (The Usual Idiots) Compilation of recent greatest hits. b&w 80pg *[05/03/97]* . . . . . $3.99

☐ **Pinky & The Brain 11** (Jesse Leon McCann & Walter Carzon + Mike DeCarlo) The Brain realises his ultimate goal — not world domination, just a date with the delectable Billie. *[05/03/97]* . . . . . $1.75

*DC Helix Science Fiction*

FINAL ISSUE ☐ **The Black Lamb 6** (of 6; Tim Truman) Black Lamb comes face to face with Vlad the Impaler and his daughter. resolicited. *[12/03/97]* . . $2.50

☐ **Brainbanx 3** (of 6; Elaine Lee & Temujin) Anna finds herself stranded in a wild area of the company's homeworld. *[12/03/97]* . . . . . $2.50

☐ **Cyberella 9** (Don Cameron) Cyberella meets the last alien survivor from the Roswell incident. His name is R.J. MacReady and he's really just a fanboy with a big head. *[05/03/97]* . . . . . $2.50

CANCELLED ☐ **Gemini Blood 8** (Christopher Hinz & Tommy Lee Edwards) Nick is kidnapped by the Loothka and now his team has to save him and discover the Loothka's grisly secret. *[19/03/97]* . . . . . $2.50

FINAL ISSUE ☐ **Time Breakers 5** (of 5; Rachel Pollack & Chris Weston) Angela discovers the truth about the Breakers and their arch-enemies the Knowers. Can she stop the Knowers from destroying her new team? *[19/03/97]* . . . . . $2.50

☐ **Vermillion 8** (Lucius Shepard & John Totleben) The baffling SF series continues with Cave embarking on a fortnight's bingeing on the underside of the city. *[26/03/97]* . . . . . $2.50

*Paradox Press*

ONE-SHOT ☐ **A History of Violence** (John Wagner & Vincent Locke) A reformed man's past comes back to haunt him and his new family. 296pg sc Mature. b&w . . $9.95

ONE-SHOT ☐ **Green Candles** (Tom DeHaven & Robin Smith) Trade paperback collection of the Paradox Mystery. 296pg sc Mature readers. b&w . . . $9.95

*Superman Family*

☐ **Action Comics 733** (David Michelinie & Tom Grummett + Denis Rodier) Superman, unfamiliar with his new abilities, calls in The Ray to give him a

hand in defeating Metallo. *[26/03/97]* . . . . . $1.95

☐ **Adventures of Superman 546** (Karl Kesel & Stuart Immonen + Jose Marzan) The new-look Superman battles Metallo, an old villain who stands a good chance of defeating the new Superman. *[19/03/97]* . . . . . $1.95

☐ **Steel 38** (Christopher Priest & Denys Cowan + Tom Palmer) Steel is joined by The Question as they travel to Africa to unravel a mystery. *[05/03/97]* . . . $1.95

☐ **Superboy 39** (Ron Marz & Ramon Bernardo) Superboy's skin condition continues to deteriorate. Is his DNA structure breaking down or something even worse? *[19/03/97]* . . . . . $1.95

☐ **Superboy and the Ravers 9** (Karl Kesel & Steve Mattsson + Paul Pelletier) The road trip concludes as Superboy encounters the new-look Superman. *[26/03/97]* . . . $1.95

☐ **Supergirl 9** (Peter David & Gary Frank + Cam Smith) Supergirl has a showdown with Buzz and must battle Tempus, a creature that distorts time and space. *[12/03/97]* . . . . . $1.95

☐ **Superman Adventures 7** (Scott McCloud & Rick Burchett + Terry Austin) Two villains from the Phantom Zone are on the loose, despite being only two inches tall they create havoc in Metropolis. *[05/03/97]* . . $1.75

☐ **Superman 123** (Dan Jurgens & Ron Frenz + Josef Rubinstein) The new costume. The new symbol. The new Superman! The Man of Steel becomes the Man of Energy as the Superman family takes a new direction. Glow-in-the-dark cover variant. *[12/03/97]* . . . . . $1.95

☐ **Superman: Man of Steel 67** (Louise Simonson & Jon Bogdanove) Superman is manifesting bizarre new abilities. Does this have anything to do with an emissary from the city in the bottle arriving, or something more sinister? *[05/03/97]* $1.95

### *DC: Vertigo mature titles*

FINAL ISSUE ☐ **Books of Faerie 3** (of 3; Bronwyn Carlton & Peter Gross) Queen Titania is pregnant and all of Faerie anxiously awaits the birth of the heir to the throne. *[05/03/97]* . . . . . $2.50

☐ **Books of Magic 36** (John Ney Rieber & Peter Snejbjerg) Tim loses the Faerie key to an insane but powerful being that can only take on forms which Tim imagines in his mind. *[12/03/97]* . . . . . $2.50

☐ **The Dreaming 12** (Bryan Talbot & Peter Docherty + Tayyar Ozkan) *Weird Romance, Part 4* (of 4). Bridget and Matthew arrive at Eve's cave and discover some startling revelations about Bridget and her two suitors. *[19/03/97]* , . $2.50

☐ **Essential Vertigo: The Sandman 10** (Neil Gaiman & Malcolm Jones III + Mike Dringenberg) Reprinting the *Doll's House*: the rumours of a dream vortex circulate the Dreaming. *[12/03/97]* . . . $1.95

☐ **Essential Vertigo: Swamp Thing 7** (Alan Moore & Steve Bissett) Reprint. b&w *[26/03/97]* . . . . . $1.95

NEW ☐ **Fault Lines 1** (of 6; Lee Marrs & Bill Koeb) The story of Tracy Farrand who thinks maybe she has an extraordinary ESP power, or perhaps she is possessed. Then again, she could be completely insane. *[12/03/97]* . . . . $2.50

☐ **Hellblazer 113** (Paul Jenkins & Sean Phillips) John finds the mysterious box that Merlin covets. But what lies inside? *[26/03/97]* . . . . . $2.25

☐ **House of Secrets 8** (Steven Seagle & Teddy Kristiansen) Rain convinces her Seattle circle to leave the house and go on a vacation. *[12/03/97]* . . . . $2.50

☐ **The Invisibles Volume 2 #4** (Grant Morrison & Phil Jimenez + John Stokes) The Invisibles' underground search for the AIDS vaccine comes to fruition in the conclusion to the first story arc. *[26/03/97]* . . . . . $2.50

☐ **Preacher 25** (Garth Ennis & Steve Dillon) Set in Ireland during the 1916 Easter Rising, the story of how Cassidy became a vampire. *[05/03/97]* . . . $2.50

☐ **Sandman Mystery Theatre 50** (Matt Wagner + Steven T. Seagle & Guy Davis) *The Scarlet Ghost, Part 2* (of 4). Why are the grusome methods used in the mysterious "dime-novel" press murders being foretold in the victims' own books? Also, an extra story celebrating the 50th issue. 48pg *[19/03/97]* . . $3.50

NEW ☐ **2020 Visions 1** (of 12; Jamie Delano & Frank Quitely) First three-part story arc deals with the effects of a plague on a major city in the year 2020 and the people who are falling victim to it. *[12/03/97]* . . . . . $2.25

☐ **Unknown Soldier 2** (Garth Ennis & Killian Plunkett) William Clyde discovers chilling new information about the legendary covert agent. *[19/03/97]* . . . . . $2.50

## DRAWN & QUARTERLY

☐ **Optic Nerve 4** (Adrian Tomine) The story of a man suffering a six-day long illness and the relationship he builds with the girl who looks after him. b&w 24pg . . . . . $2.95

☐ **Palooka-Ville 10** (Seth) The start of a 10-part series which takes Seth away from autobiographical stories and into a fictional approach for the first time. 24pg . . . . . $3.75

## EDDIE CAMPBELL

☐ **Eddie Campbell's Bacchus 23** (Eddie Campbell) Bacchus is on toilet duty and discovers that the inmates at the prison have some disgusting habits. Mature readers. b&w . . . . . $2.95

## EL CAPITAN

☐ **Stray Bullets 13** (David Lapham) The disembodied head of Virginia Applejack speaks to Nina while Orson and Beth organise Nick's campaign for sheriff. b&w . . . . . $2.95

## EVENT COMICS

ONE-SHOT ☐ **Painkiller Jane vs The Darkness: Stripper** (Garth Ennis & Amanda Connor + Jimmy Palmiotti) Event meets Top Cow as the hot heroine from **22 Brides** meets Garth Ennis' latest horror sensation. Four covers available. . . . . $2.95

## FANTAGRAPHICS

☐ **The Comics Journal 195** (various) Comics discussion and interview magazine. 112pg Mature readers. b&w . . . $5.95

☐ **Naughty Bits 22** (Roberta Gregory) Continuing the infrequent series of Bitchy Bitch thru' the years. Mature readers. b&w 24pg . . . . . $2.95

☐ **New Love 4** (Gilbert Hernandez) Ten stories crammed into 24 pages all concentrating on characters from **Love & Rockets**. Mature readers. b&w . . . $2.95

ONE-SHOT ☐ **Why Did Pete Duel Kill Himself?** (Mark Kalesniko) Biographical story of the would be film star and popular TV actor who made *Alias Smith & Jones* and then shot himself on Christmas Day. Mature readers. 88pg b&w . . . . . $8.95

☐ **Your Flesh 35** (various) Anthology and article magazine featuring a look at Ralph Steadman's new book. Mature readers. 120pg. . . . . $4.95

☐ **Zippy Quarterly 15** (Bill Griffith) Collecting the Zippy stories from syndicated newspaper strips. . . . . $3.95

## FULL BLEED STUDIOS

☐ **Pitt 13** (Dale Keown) Pitt is on the hunt again and Axiom is right on his heels. . . . . $1.95

## GEMSTONE PUBLISHING

☐ **Crime Suspenstories 19** (various) Stories by Joe Orlando, Johnny Craig, Graham Ingels and Jack Kamen. . . . . $2.50

☐ **Frontline Combat 8** (various) Stories by Reed Crandall, Jack Davis, John Severin, Bill Elder & Joe Orlando. . . . . $2.50

☐ **Haunt of Fear 19** (various) Stories by Joe Orlando, Bill Elder, Jack Kamen, John Severin & Al Williamson. . . . . $2.50

## HARRIS COMICS

☐ **Cyberfrog 0** (Ethan Van Sciver) The origin of the amphibian anti-hero. . . . . $2.95

☐ **Vampirella Silver Anniversary Collection 3** (of 4; Bill DuBay & Jose Gonzalez) Retelling the original Warren classics in comic-sized versions. Covers by Jim Silke & Mark Beachum. . . . . $2.95

ONE-SHOT ☐ **Vampirella vs Pantha 1** (Mark Millar & Mark Texeira) Vampirella battles the Queen of Cats and then teams up for an orgy of horror. Two covers by Mark Texeira. . . . . $2.95

## IMAGE COMICS

### *Homage Comics*

☐ **Kurt Busiek's Astro City Volume #2 #8** (Kurt Busiek & Brent Anderson) The Shadow Hill crisis continues. Citizens are up in arms. The government and the superheroes are at odds — and the Confessor suspects what is truly happening. Cover by Alex Ross. . . . . $2.50

☐ **Leave it to Chance 5** (James Robinson & Paul Smith) Chance becomes an animal hunter and heads off to find a friend's lost pet, only to stumble into a macabre situation. . . . . $2.50

☐ **Strangers In Paradise Vol 3 #5** (Terry Moore) Francine's early life as a college graduate is explored. Her flirtation with a sculptor comes back to haunt her on graduation day. . . . . $2.75

### *Wildstorm Productions*

☐ **Backlash 30** (Sean Ruffner & Brett Booth + Pete Woods) Backlash recovers from his battle with Typhon. *[05/03/97]* . $2.50

☐ **DV8 #6** (Warren Ellis & Humberto Ramos + Sal Regla) Bliss is conniving against Threshold; Copycat's falling in love with Frostbite and Powerhaus goes out drinking. Mature readers. *[26/03/97]* $2.50

☐ **Gen$^{13}$ Bootleg 5** (Terry Moore & Tomm Coker) *Dark Knight*-styled series with rotating creative teams. Fairchild realises that she has somehow lost 30 minutes of her life. She also meets a mysterious stranger, who's been dead for 50 years! *[05/03/97]* . . . . . $2.50

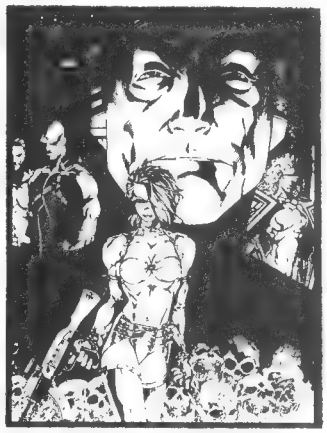
☐ **Grifter 9** (Steven Grant &

Michael Ryan + Jason Gorder) Zealot is captured and Soldier is presumed dead. In the midst of all this bad news, Grifter finds an unexpected ally. Plus the return of the Sybarite. *[19/03/97]* $2.50

NEW ☐ **Savant Garde 1** (Barbara Kesel & Ryan Odagawa + Chuck Gibson) Savant leaves WildC.A.T.s and goes in search of hidden treasure. Unfortunately for her, this means taking along other treasure seekers. *[19/03/97]* . . . . $2.50

☐ **Siege 3** (Jonathan Peterson & Robert Teranishi + Al Vey) Omega Squad must battle a horde of Zontarian Crab ships. *[26/03/97]* . . . . . $2.50

☐ **StormWatch 46** (Warren Ellis & Tom Raney + Randy Elliott) The lull before the storm? A quiet day on Skywatch, but possibly all the secrets are about to be revealed. The prologue to a multi-part story which will tear the first team of the Wildstorm Universe apart... completely. *[12/03/97]* . . . . . $2.50



☐ **Wetworks 27** (Francis Takanaga & Jason Johnson + Sandra Hope) Craven continues to haunt the team from the grave. *[19/03/97]* . . . . . $2.50

☐ **WildC.A.T.s 36** (Barbara Kesel & Richard Johnson) Acting as a sequel to the new ongoing series **Savant Garde** solicited this month. *[19/03/97]* . . $2.50

☐ **Wildstorm Spotlight 2** (Steven Grant & Roy Allen Martinez + Gerry Alanguilan) The return of Loner, after 20 years of self-appointed exile. *[12/03/97]* . . . . . $2.50

☐ **Wynonna Earp 4** (Beau Smith & Joyce Chin + Mark Irwin) Bad girl meets *X-Files* styled series continues with Wynonna arriving in New York to investigate the disappearance of Egyptian mobsters and evil that is Not of This Earth! *[05/03/97]* . . . . . $2.50

### *Top Cow Productions*

NEW ☐ **Arcanum 1** (Brandon Peterson) A group of people from all over the world are drawn together to prevent an apocalyptic struggle which will end mankind. *[05/03/97]* $2.50

☐ **Cyberforce 32** (Brian Holguin & Dave Finch) Cyberforce attempts to come to terms with all the drastic changes that have happened to it in recent months. *[26/03/97]* . . . . . $2.50

☐ **Darkness 4** (Garth Ennis & Marc Silvestri) The mob underworld begins to adjust to the new, mysterious player in town. *[02/04/97]* . . . . . $2.50

☐ **Witchblade 13** (Christina Z + Mike Turner & David Wohl + D-Tron) What is the secret past of the modelling mogul Dannette Boucher? *[26/03/97]* . . . $2.50

### *Todd McFarlane Productions*

☐ **Curse of the Spawn 7** (Alan McElroy & Dwayne Turner) Sam and Twitch uncover the missing — and now dead — person. What secrets did Gretchen Culver have that caused the end of her life? . . . . . $1.95

☐ **Dark Chylde 5** (Randy Queen & Jason Gorder) Former Maximum Press bad girl moves to her new home as part of Todd McFarlane's imprint. The concluding chapter of her first story arc. . . . . $2.50

☐ **Spawn 60** (Todd McFarlane & Greg Capullo) The Clown continues his battle with Spawn, but Al has the aid of the Cogliostro. . . . . $1.95

### *Cartoon Books reprints*

☐ **Bone 17** (Jeff Smith) Deluxe reprint featuring five extra story pages and a new cover. 24pg b&w . . . . . $2.95

### *I Before E*

☐ **Maxx 29** (Sam Kieth) Sara and Norbert manage to rescue Julie from Sarah's outback. Gone faces Iago the Slug. . . . . $1.95

### *Image Comics Books*

☐ **A Distant Soil 19** (Colleen Doran) Rieken and D'Mer discover that a replacement has been found for the Hierarchy's dead seer. b&w . . . . . $2.95

NEW ☐ **Adventures of Aaron 1** (Aaron Warner) A story of a baby-sitter gone bad. Adapted from the newspaper strip of the same name. b&w . . . . . $2.95

☐ **Age of Heroes 3** (James Hudnall & John Ridgway) First Image issue. Luko and Aerwyn attempt to steal the treasure of the gods. b&w . . . . . $2.95

☐ **A Touch of Silver 2 — Dance (December, 1962)** (Jim Valentino) Timmy faces his first dance and possibly his first "real" kiss. b&w . . . . . $2.95

☐ **Big Bang Comics 9** (Big Bang Studios) The Atomic Sub battles the Four Sea Horses of the Apocalypse. b&w . . . $2.95

NEW ☐ **Freak Force 1** (Erik Larsen & Andy Kuhn) The return of the wackiest superteam. Freak Force faces the combined power of the new Frightening Force! . . . . . $2.95

☐ **Hellshock 3** (Jae Lee) Daniel is free of the madness and he must now undergo a journey into his own soul. . . . . $2.50

FINAL ISSUE ☐ **Mars Attacks The Image Universe 4** (of 4; Keith Giffen & Andy Smith + Bill Sienkiewicz) Topps aliens meet Image superheroes. Ties in to Topps' **Mars Attacks The Savage Dragon.** . . . . . $2.50

☐ **Savage Dragon 37** (Erik Larsen) The Martians have left Chicago in ruins and the Dragon searches for survivors. . . $2.50

☐ **The Savage Dragon: Red Horizon 2** (of 3; Mike Miller) The Dragon ends up in ER after an assassination attempt by a beautiful woman. . . . . $2.50

NEW ☐ **Soul Wind 1** (of 4; Scott Morse) The story of an Earth boy's fantasy which becomes real. 40pg b&w $2.95

☐ **Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 8** (Gary Carlson & Frank Fosco) Michelangelo embarks on a solo and potentially suicidal mission to clear Casey's daughter's name. b&w . . $2.95

☐ **The Tenth 2** (Tony Daniel + Beau Smith & Kevin Conrad) The Tenth must face Rhazes Dark's Army of Darkness! $2.50

## KITCHEN SINK

☐ **The Awakening 2** (of 4; Stephen Blue) Rachel's strange visions persist as the doctors fight to save her life. Mature readers. b&w . . . . . $3.50

☐ **The Crow: Waking Nightmares 3** (of 4; Chris Golden & Phil Hestor) Mark Leung was a good cop, father and husband, he is now good at seeking revenge. His target: the child pornographers who have kidnapped his children. Mature readers. b&w . . . . . $2.95

## LIGHTNING COMICS

NEW ☐ **Catfight: Sweet Revenge 1** (Olaf Adam & O'Shaugnessey O'Clair + Cooper Anderson) Catfight's arch enemy the Lollie Pop Man returns to get his revenge. Mature readers. . . . . $2.95/$9.95

☐ **Creed: Cranial Disorder 3** (Trent Kanuiga & Josh Hood + Noodles Anderson) Mary fights to regain control of her body. b&w . . . . . $2.95/$9.95

## LONDON NIGHT

ONE-SHOT ☐ **Poizon: Cadillacs and Green Tomatoes 1** (Everette Hartsoe & Stephen Sandoval) Having tied up all of her past, Poizon heads into her future with renewed vigour. But *is* the future bright? . . . . . $3.00/$6.00

☐ **Razor 4** (David Quinn & Victor Holaso) The toned down version has been dropped in favour of the original version. Mature readers. . . . . $3.00

☐ **Razor Uncut 33** (Tom Sniegoski & Dylan Powell) Razor faces the supernatural werewolves that threaten Queen City. Mature readers. . . . $3.00

NEW ☐ **Sisters of Mercy 0** (various) Prequel to the new series. 16pg . . . . . $1.50

☐ **Tommi Gun 2** (Dixon Hill & Victor Holaso) Tommi has to face the Gladiators of Destruction. Cover variants available. . . . . $3.00/$6.00

☐ **Ultimate Strike 3** (David Quinn & Ron Atkinson) Stryke's memory is returning and this spells trouble for those around her. Mature readers. . . . . $3.00

## MARVEL

### *Spider-Man family*

☐ **Amazing Spider-Man 423** (Tom DeFalco & Joe Bennett + Bud La Rosa) Electro is back, faster and more deadlier than ever. And despite Spider-Man helping him earlier, the villain has no wencome for him. *[12/03/97]* . . . . . $1.95

☐ **Peter Parker, Spider-Man 80** (Howard Mackie & John Romita Jr) More details on S.H.O.C are revealed as the construct's links to Hydra are exposed. *[19/03/97]* . . . . . $1.95

☐ **Sensational Spider-Man 16** (Todd DeZago & Mike Wieringo) Spidey is confronted by a ghost from the late Ben Reilly's life. *[05/03/97]* . . . . . $1.95

☐ **Spectacular Spider-Man 246**

(J.M. DeMatteis & Luke Ross) The Kangaroo and the Grizzly return. It's old villains week for Peter, especially with Jack O'Lantern dropping in on JJJ. *[26/03/97]* . . . . . $1.95

☐ **Spider-Man: Unlimited 16** (Mark Bernardo & Joe Bennett + Tom Dzon) Spidey, Silver Sable and X-Force team-up in search of Latverian relics.*[26/03/97]* $2.99

☐ **Untold Tales of Spider-Man 21** (Kurt Busiek & Pat Olliffe + Al Williamson) The original X-Men drop in for an early encounter between arachnid and mutant. *[12/03/97]* . . . . . $0.99

FINAL ISSUE ☐ **Venom: On Trial 3** (of 3; Larry Hama & Josh Hood + Derek Fisher) Concluding episode with Spider-Man, Daredevil and Carnage all helping Eddie to beat the rap. *[26/03/97]* . . . . . $1.95

### Marvel Heroes

☐ **Avengers 7** (Rob Liefeld + Jeph Loeb & Chap Yaep + Jonathan Sibal) No story information available at the time of going to press. *[12/03/97]* . . . . . $1.95

☐ **Captain America 7** (Rob Liefeld + Jeph Loeb & Rob Liefeld + Jon Sibal) No story information available. *[26/03/97]* . . . . . $1.95

FINAL ISSUE ☐ **Code of Honour 4** (of 4; Chuck Dixon & Brad Parker) The **Marvels** spin-off concludes. Jeff Piper meets with the awesomely powerful Dark Phoenix. *[05/03/97]* . . . . $2.95

☐ **Daredevil 364** (Karl Kesel & Cary Nord) Daredevil faces the strange homicidal woman known as Insomnia. *[05/03/97]* . $1.95

☐ **Elektra 7** (Peter Milligan & Mike Deodato Jr) Elektra returns to her old bloodthirsty ways as an army of assassins terrorise New York. *[26/03/97]* . . $1.95

☐ **Fantastic Four 7** (Jim Lee + Brandon Choi + Brett Booth) The Fantastic Four enters the Negative Zone and encounter Blastaar. *[05/03/97]* . . . . $1.95

☐ **Ghost Rider 85** (Ivan Velez & Pop Mhan + John Lowe) The Scarecrow takes control of the Ghost Rider. *[12/03/97]* . $1.95

☐ **Incredible Hulk '97** (Chris Cooper + Bill Rosemann + Jeff Rebner) Two stories which examine the effect that the Hulk has upon the childhood of two boys. 64pg *[12/03/97]* . . $2.99

☐ **Incredible Hulk 453** (Peter David & Mike Deodato + Tom Wegrzyn) The Hulk has to face a being from the future who calls himself... The Hulk! Final Deodato issue. *[19/03/97]* $1.95

☐ **Iron Man 7** (Jim Lee + Scott Lobdell & Whilce Portacio + Scott Williams) Iron Man discovers the villain who has been manipulating him since issue #1. *[19/03/97]* . . . . $1.95

☐ **Journey Into Mystery 508** (Tom Defalco & Deodato Studios) The identity of Zhung is revealed. *[12/03/97]* . . . . $1.95

NEW ☐ **Ka-Zar 1** (Mark Waid & Andy Kubert) New series featuring Marvel's equivalent to Tarzan. Kevin Plunder returns to the Savage Land and his old life. 40pg *[05/03/97]* . . . . . $1.95

☐ **Marvel Adventures 2** (Ralph Macchio & Ben Herrera) Spider-Man stars in an TV animation styled comics adventure. Guest stars Venom. *[12/03/97]* . $1.50

ONE-SHOT ☐ **Marvel Chillers** (Mark Gruenwald) Children's illustrated novel featuring the Hulk. *[05/03/97]* . . . . . $2.95

☐ **Punisher 19** (John Ostrander & Tom Lyle + Rob Jones) The Punisher battles Deadpool's villain, the Taskmaster. *[19/03/97]* . . . . . $1.95

☐ **Silver Surfer 128** (J. M. DeMatteis & Ron Garney + Bob Wiacek) The Surfer's final battle with the Puppet Master. *[26/03/97]* . . . . . $1.95

☐ **2099: World of Tomorrow 9** (Joe Kelly & David Brewer + various) Series featuring the most popular characters from the **2099** Universe. *[19/03/97]* . . . $2.50

☐ **Thunderbolts 2** (Kurt Busiek & Mark Bagley) Marvel's newest superteam face the power of the Mad Thinker as he gatecrashes a service in honour of the fallen superheroes. Variant cover available. *[19/03/97]* . . . $1.95

☐ **Untold Legend of Captain Marvel 2** (Tom Brevoort + Mike Kanterovich & Scott Kolins + John Lowe) The young Mar-Vel has to face the might of the Brood. *[26/03/97]* . . . . . $2.95

☐ **What If? 97** (James Felder & Leonardo Manco) *What if The Black Knight battled Doctor Doom? [19/03/97]* . . . . . $1.95

### X-Men family

NEW ☐ **Beast 1** (of 3; Keith Giffen & Cedric Nocon) Henry comes to the aid of former New Mutant Karma as Hydra attempts to infiltrate and use Spiral's body shoppe. . . . $2.25

☐ **Cable 43** (Todd DeZago & Randy Green + Scott Hanna) Cable becomes aware of parts of his past (the X-Men's future) which he should be very frightened of. *[05/03/97]* $1.95

☐ **Deadpool 5** (Joe Kelly & Ed McGuinness + Kevin Lau + Nathan Massengill) Deadpool decides to reacquaint himself with Siryn. *[26/03/97]* . . $1.95

☐ **Excalibur 109** (Ben Raab & Sal Larocca + Scott Koblish) Spiral, the six-armed former girlfriend of Longshot, drops in to lead the European team on a new adventure. *[19/03/97]* $1.95

☐ **Generation X #27** (Scott Lobdell & Chris Bachalo + Mark Buckingham) The team finds itself aboard a nuclear submarine headed for Europe with no way of changing its course. *[12/03/97]* . . . . . $1.95

ONE-SHOT ☐ **Marvel Chillers: Wolverine** (Larry Hama + Liam Sharpe) An illustrated novel featuring the most popular X-Man. *[26/03/97]* . . . . . $2.99

☐ **Uncanny Origins 9** (Jim Alexander & Marc Campos) The origin of Storm. *[05/03/97]* $0.99

☐ **Uncanny X-Men 344** (Scott Lobdell & Joe Madureira + Tim Townsend) The X-Men's adventure with the Shi'Ar concludes. *[05/03/97]* . . . $1.95

☐ **Wolverine 113** (Larry Hama & Anthony Winn + Dan Green) Logan is haunted by the appearance of Ogun, his former mentor. *[26/03/97]* . . . . . $1.95

☐ **X-Factor 134** (Howard Mackie & Jeff Matsuda + Art Thibert) The team sets up in a place where the government can't interfere. *[12/03/97]* . . . . $1.95

☐ **X-Force 66** (John Francis Moore & Adam Pollina) Proudstar finds himself the prisoner of a radically altered X-Men villain. *[26/03/97]* . $1.95

☐ **X-Man 27** (Terry Kavanagh & Roger Cruz + Bud LaRosa) It's Nathan versus Havok for control of the all-new Hellfire Club. *[19/03/97]* . . . . . $1.95

☐ **X-Men 64** (Scott Lobdell & Carlos Pacheco + Art Thibert) Shang-Chi and the mutants attempt to stop the coronation of a new Black Queen. . . . $1.95

☐ **X-Men '97** (John Francis Moore & Steve Epting) Gambit, Joseph and Jean Grey team up for a 64-page adventure. . $2.99

### Marvel licensed titles

NEW ☐ **Harvey Presents: Casper 1** (various) The friendliest Ghost of them all returns. 48pg *[12/03/97]* . $2.99

☐ **Star Trek: Deep Space 9 #7** (Howard Weinstein & Tom Grindberg) Sisko stands trial for an inter-galactic tragedy. *[12/03/97]* . . . . . $1.95

☐ **Star Trek: Early Voyages 4** (Dan Abnett + Ian Edgington & Patrick Zircher + Greg Adams) This issue ties directly into *The Cage*, the classic *Star Trek* pilot episode. *[26/03/97]* . . . . $1.95

☐ **Star Trek: Star Fleet Academy 6** (Chris Cooper & Chris Renaud + Andy Lanning) The funeral of Kamilah and the introduction of her replacement Edam Astrun (no not a Dutch cheese). *[19/03/97]* . . . . $1.95

☐ **Star Trek Unlimited 4** (various) Two stories featuring Kirk and Picard's *Enterprises*. *[26/03/97]* . . . . . $2.99

☐ **Star Trek: Voyager 7** (Ben Raab & Jesus Redondo) Janeway forges an uneasy alliance with a band of her most dreaded enemies. *[05/03/97]* . . . . $1.95

## MAXIMUM PRESS

☐ **Asylum 13** (Extreme studios) A special look at Extreme projects in 1997. . . . . $2.99

☐ **Avengelyne 12 & 13** (Rob Napton & John Stinsman) The bi-weekly adventures continue as the heroine attempts to overcome her possession. . . . . $2.99

☐ **Cabbot: Bloodhunter 3** (Rick Veitch) Cabbot Stone — formerly known as Bloodstrike — is now the walking dead. Cabbot is reunited with Deadlock and they go on a spree. . $2.50

NEW ☐ **Cyberpunx 1** (Matt Hawkins & Ching Lau) The cyber-thriller returns for a new ongoing series. The Cyberpunx have to protect the Earth from the Cyberlords. . . . $2.50

☐ **Cybrid 2** (of 4; Mike Miller & Robert Napton) Cybrid prepares to exact revenge on those who would reclaim his freedom. . . . . $2.99

☐ **Footsoldiers Giant Sized 1** (Jim Krueger & Mike Oeming) Retelling the first **Footsoldiers**

adventure, with extra pages, and acting as a jumping on point for the new series. 48pg b&w..$4.95

☐ **Glory 21** (Jo Duffy & Jim Morrigan & Lary Stucker) Glory has to seek help from one of her most hated enemies. . . . . $2.50

☐ **Newmen 23** (Eric Stephenson & Chris Sprouse) The remaining Newmen go in search of the missing Bootleg. . . . . $2.50

NEW ☐ **Spider-Man/Badrock 1 & 2** (Dan Jurgens & Marat Mychaels) Shaft dupes Badrock into attending an interview with the Daily Bugle, which ultimately leads into Spidey and Badrock teaming up to save the city. . . . . $2.99

☐ **Supreme 47** (Alan Moore & Jim Morrigan + Norm Rapmund) Whatever happened to Professor Night and his sidekick Twilight the Girl Marvel? . . . . . $2.50

## SIRIUS

☐ **Akiko 13** (Mark Crilley) Akiko and company manage to escape the clutches of the lizard wolves. b&w . . . . . $2.50

☐ **Demongate 11** (Bao Lin Hum + Colin Chan) The secrets of the Demongate are revealed and Dogstar takes control of the situation. b&w . . . . . $2.50

☐ **Poison Elves 22** (Drew Hayes) The return of some familiar faces. b&w . . . . $2.50

☐ **Reality Check 7** (Tavicat) Anthropomorphic adventure series. 24pg . . . . . $2.95

## TOPPS COMICS

☐ **Lady Rawhide 5** (Don McGregor & Esteban Maroto) Lady Rawhide has to fight a band of renegade women vampires. . . . . $2.95

FINAL ISSUE ☐ **Mars Attacks The Savage Dragon 4** (of 4; Dwight Zimmerman & Claude St Aubin) Tying in to Image's **Mars Attacks** crossover. The Dragon has to try and stop the Hard Rain, a deadly shower of meteorites, from destroying all life on Earth. . . . . $2.95

ONE-SHOT ☐ **Mars Attacks High School Special 1** (Dwight Zimmerman & Hugh Haynes + Armando Gil) Cannibal Ann goes on a Martian killing spree. . . . . $2.95

☐ **The X-Files 28** (John Rozum & Steve Purcell) Fox and Dana go in search of the mythical Wendigo. . . . . $2.95

## VEROTIK

☐ **Albino Spider of Dajette 2** (Glenn Danzig & Eric Canete) Dajette must fight with her evil id, the psycho-sexual psychopathic killer The Albino Spider. Mature readers. . . . . $2.95

☐ **Verotika 15** (various) Three stories in this lurid horror anthology. Mature readers. $2.95

## VIZ COMMUNICATIONS

☐ **Animerica Vol 5:3** (anthology magazine) Manga strips, anime interviews, news and reviews. 64pg. . . . . $4.95

☐ **Battle Angel Alita Part Seven #6** (of 8; Yukito Kishiro) Barjack battles Tiphares. . $2.95

☐ **Bio-Booster Armor Guyver Part 6 #4** (of 6; Yoshiki Takaya) Aptom attempts to absorb the remaining Zoanoid. b&w $2.95

☐ **Fist of the North Star Part Four #4** (of 7; Tetsuo Hara + Reg Buronson) Ken must decide whether blood is thicker than water. b&w . . . . . $2.95

☐ **Maison Ikkoku Part Six #8** (of 11; Rumiko Takahashi) Yusaki is plagued by rumours that he slept with a student. 40pg . . . . . $2.95

NEW ☐ **Metal Guardian Faust 1** (of 8; Tetsuro Ueyama) The adventures of a robot with a human heart. b&w 40pg . . . . . $2.95

☐ **No Need For Tenchi Part 2 #5** (of 7; Hitoshi Okuda) Tenchi fights a final life-and-death battle with Yakage. b&w . . . . . $2.95

☐ **One-Pound Gospel Part Two #3** (of 8; Rumiko Takahashi) Sister Angela agrees to spend Christmas with Kosaku if he wins his next match. b&w $2.95

☐ **Ranma ½ Part Six #4** (of 14; Rumiko Takahashi) What will become of the Pig-tailed girl when the school installs a strict dress sense? b&w . . . . . $2.95

☐ **Return of Lum, Part Three #11** (of 11; Rumiko Takahashi) Ataru is attempting to sabotage Lum's father's plans for fixing up his daughter with a suitable husband. b&w . . . . . $2.95

FINAL ISSUE ☐ **Sanctuary Part 5 #13** (of 13; Sho Fuminura & Ryoichi Ikegami) The conclusion of the entire series. Hojo and Asami have reached their goal, but at what price? 40pg b&w . . $3.50

## WARP GRAPHICS

☐ **Elflord 3** (of 4; Barry Blair & Colin Chan) Hawk and Windblade approach the mystical realm of Kathay. But the duo is trailed by Ravenclaw who wants Windblade's magic. b&w $2.95

☐ **Elfquest 10** (Wendy Pini + Barry Blair & Steve Blevins + Mike Shelton + Jocellyn Aucklandus + edited by Richard Pini) Five new Elfquest stories from the past, present and future. 64pg b&w . . . . . $4.95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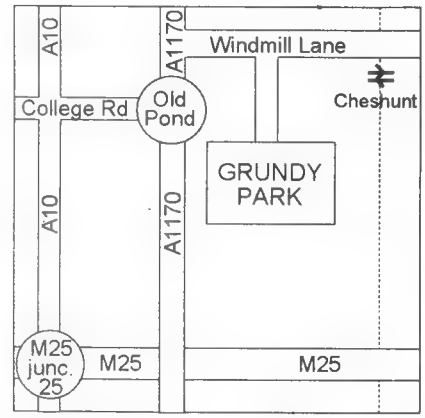


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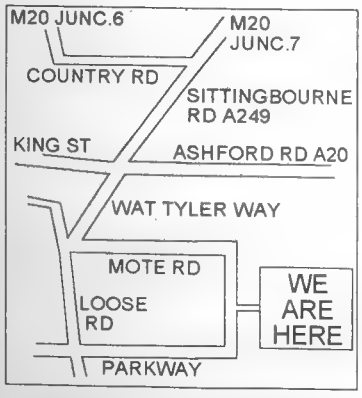


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*Crow Comics has announced that its new anthology title, **Meanwhile...**, will be launched in April, at UKCAC '97. Co-edited by John Anderson and Howard Stangroom, it is intended as a showcase of UK talent, without adhering to any one genre. With a Hunt Emerson full colour cover, it will feature the work of Paul Rafferty (below), Donald Rooum, Raph Horsley (below right) Rachel House ("Fanboys", above) and Jane Schofield. A 32 page black and white title, it will retail for £2.05.*

# New international comics festival planned for Scotland

**A MAJOR new international Cartoon and Comic Art Festival is being planned in Scotland. The event is the brainchild of designers and cartoonists Tom Sommerville and Ranald MacColl, co-founders of the highly-successful Scottish Cartoonists and Comic Artist Members Club (SCCAM).** *Feature by Rob Reid*

The duo, operating under the banner "Jeely Jaur Productions", have been working on the event for two years.

Tom Sommerville said "We aim to make the event a superb showcase for the best of comic and cartoon art in Scotland and the rest of the UK.

"We hope to make it a major tourist attraction, an annual event and we have had a great deal of encouragement and support from a wide number of organisations in Europe and the States. "

MacColl adds: "We have had discussions with major comic art organisations and artists, most of whom have pledged their support for the festival. "

The pair confirms that they have access to more than 300 pieces of artwork by the great Bud Neil, creator of Lobey Dosser, a well- known Scottish cartoon character who once rode the range on his two-legged horse, "El Fideldo", in the **Evening Times.**

They also aim to feature artistic stars from the D.C Thomson stable, including works by the celebrated Dudley D. Watkins, who illustrated Scottish cartoon legends such as The Broons and Oor Wullie, and Leo Baxendale of Bash Street Kids fame.

The aim is to make the festival an important focal point and high profile showcase for British and international talent, but Sommerville and MacColl are adamant that the event will be very much oriented to the family.

"The kind of event we are planning requires a sizeable budget, and we were very encouraged by the European funding commitment we were awarded last year," Sommerville commented.

"It was a great Christmas present" says MacColl.

However, the recent reorganisation of local government in Scotland, with subsequent financial implications, has delayed plans to launch the festival this year.

MacColl said, "We had to take a hard objective look at the pros and cons of a 1997 event. Circumstances beyond our control were making things difficult, and although our hearts were telling is to go for this year, our heads told us a more realistic date was 1998.

"Whatever happens, we are very confident that the event will go ahead, and we'll definitely give it our very best," MacColl concluded.


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## IN BRIEF

### UK Simpsons

FINALLY a UK publisher has picked up the most obvious money-making US licence available.

This month sees the launch from Titan Magazines of the **Simpsons Comic Magazine**: a 52-page large format monthly, priced £2.00.

A free poster will be given away with the first issue which will be promoted through radio, TV and a flyposting.

With an initial print of 100,000, Titan is targeting the wide range of 14-30 year olds and each issue will feature strips, profiles and competitions.

### Cartoonists Club

THE Scottish Cartoonists Club is going from strength to strength, with now more than 120 members.

Membership includes a number of distinguished creators from across the globe, with the legendary Will (**Spirit**) Eisner as president.

The club meets in the basement of Blackfriar's Pub, in Glasgow's Bell Street from 7.30pm on the first Wednesday of every month.

Membership is £15 a year, and more details are available from Tom Sommerville at J & T Graphics, 61 Parnie Street, Glasgow.

### Meng & Ecker return

DAVID Britton's controversial **Meng & Ecker** is back in a large format black and white graphic novel.

Although 60 percent of the 256pg book is new material written by David Britton and drawn by Kris Guido, **The Adventures of Meng & Ecker** also gathers together the best stories from the early issues of the comic that has been banned and declared obscene by more than one magistrate.

Publisher Mike Butterworth said of the book, "Meng & Ecker appears again despite the might of the British judicial system, all "right-thinking" people and inane moralists everywhere trying to prevent its publication".

Available in bookshops from the end of March, it is priced £9.99.

### 1996 CCG Awards

THE results of the annual Comic Creators Guild Awards are as follows:

- *Frank Bellamy Award For Lifetime Achievement:* Julius Schwartz
- *CCG Special Award:* Cartoon Art Trust
- *Best Monthly Title:* **Impulse** (Waid & Ramos; DC)
- *Best Ongoing Title:* **Hate** (Bagge; Fantagraphics)
- *Best Limited Series/Story Arc:* **Flex Mentallo** (Morrison & Quitely; DC Vertigo)
- *Best Anthology Title:* **Action Girl** and **Scenes From the Inside** (tied)
- *Best Cover:* **Flex Mentallo** #2 (Quitely; DC) and **Batman Black & White** #4 (Toth; DC) (tied)
- *Best One-Off:* One Life, Furnished in Early Moorcock (Gaiman & Russell; Topps)
- *Best Small Press/Self-Published:* **Kane** (Grist)
- *Best Newspaper Strip:* Calvin & Hobbes
- *Best Strip From an Anthology:* Monkey Punk (Webster + various; Slab O'Concrete)
- *Foreign Work Most Worthy of Translation Into English:* Sailor Moon (Takeguchi)

### Sonic Centenary

**SONIC the Comic**, the top-selling fortnightly from Egmont Fleetway celebrates its 100th issue in March.

One of the few British comics to reach 100 issues in recent years, **Sonic** features comic strips based on Sega's popular Sonic the Hedgehog computer games. For the centenary issue, all four regular strips will be different chapters of the same complete 22-page story.

Issue 100 will be covermounted with free transfers, priced £1.25.

### Happy Birthday 2000AD

FLEETWAY celebrates another landmark in March with the 20th anniversary of **2000AD**.

To celebrate, prog #1033 (on sale March 5) will contain four new strips and a 16 page replica of **2000AD #1**.

Prog #1034's 16-page supplement is entitled **3000AD Prog #1** and is an experiment showing what **2000AD** would be like if it were being launched today. It takes the original scripts from the first prog back in 1977 and gives them a 1997 twist. Artists on the project are: S B Davies, Jason Brashill, Kevin Walker, Carl Critchlow and Henry Flint.

Remaining at £1.10, **2000AD** switches to A4 with the return of editor Tharg and fan-favourites such as John Wagner and Carlos Ezquerra with *Al's Baby II* alongside new series: *Mercy Heights* (Tomlinson & Walker) and *Nicolai Dante* (Robbie Morrison and S. Fraser).

*Above: artwork for a new independent comic, **Red Herring**, created and self-published by former **Sonic The Comic** assistant editor William Potter. Featuring a homicidal hairdresser and a bearded lady, **Red Herring** will be the first title produced under Potter's own imprint: Splash Comics. Potter, whose previous credits include a 12-part fish god series called Nommo for **Deadline** describes the comic as "a strawberry blonde pop comic with highlights". The US format **Red Herring** #1 will be in shops in March, priced £1.50 and is black and white with a 3-colour cover.*

## The 1997 UK Comic Art Convention

**UKCAC organiser Rusty Staples predicts that this year's event, held at the Institute of Education in London on March 15 and 16, will be one of the most memorable of recent years.**

More oversees guests have been confirmed than at any time since 1990. Creators attending include Terry (**Strangers in Paradise**) Moore; Dan (**Eightball**) Clowes; Mike Vosburg — currently working on the animated *Spawn* TV series and Trina Robbins, author of **The Great Women Superheroes**.

Guest of honour is Joe Kubert who will be holding two comic art classes for 20 fans. In order to qualify for a chance to attend, bookings must be made for the whole weekend before the advance booking deadline of February 24.

Numerous British creators should be in attendence and it is also likely that a top US "bad girl" artist will attend.

Events across the weekend include the usual costume parade; the charity auction with proceeds going this year to Martial Hearts; the presentation of the UK Comic Art Awards, voted for by Britain's comics professionals and two continuous choices of programming.

In addition there will be a full dealers' room and a new role playing quiz.

Anyone under 14 is admitted for free if accompanied by a paying adult, otherwise the booking prices are £20 for the weekend or £12.50 per day if booked before February 24.

## Competition winners

From **CI #75**, the 10 winners of the Titan **Dark Knight Returns** hardcover book are:

*Oyvind Braaten, Norway*
*Idris El-Mahdi, Dublin, Ireland*
*Daniel Brooks, Southampton*
*Harpreet Kalsi, Romford, Essex*
*Ivan McCann, Market Rasen*
*Andrew McGuire, Leicester*
*Simon McMiram, Taunton*
*Jean Murphy, Armley, Leeds*
*Kes Seymour, Wimbeldon*
*Laura Watton, Halesowen*

The 8 winners of the Virgin **Marvel Universe** book are:

*L. Chin, Paisley*
*Andrew Holder, Bromley*
*Tim Hunter, Ashtead, Surrey*
*Stewart Perkins: Scole, Norfolk*
*Mark Pickstone, Peterborough*
*Joshua Scutchings, Watford*
*Aysha Siddika, Forest Hill*
*Paul Sng, Erith, Kent*

# GARTH ENNIS PACKET OF THREE COMPETITION

# Over £250 worth of Garth Ennis trade paperbacks from Titan Books to be won

Titan Books is offering 10 lucky **Comics International** readers the chance to win sets of three new trade paperbacks, all by top writer Garth Ennis. Each set, worth £27, consists of:

***Hellblazer: Fear and Loathing***
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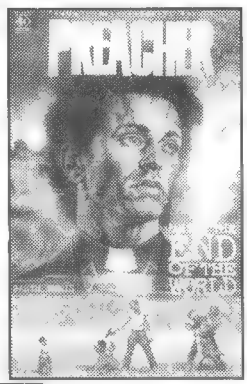


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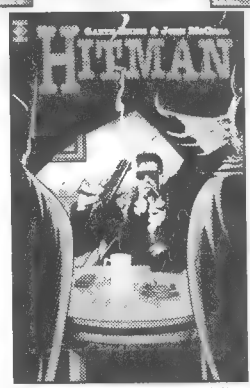


**Preacher: Until the End of the World**
by Garth Ennis
& Steve Dillon
256 pages
£9.99
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Garth Ennis broke into comics with the 1988 publication of his controversial *Troubled Souls* in Fleetway's **Crisis**. Drawn by **Hitman** collaborator, John McCrae, it was followed by a sequel, *For a Few Troubles More.*

His first published American script was **Hellblazer** for artist Will Simpson (#41). Steve Dillon replaced Simpson with #57, before leaving the title with Ennis to co-create **Preacher**.

Ennis has a prolific U.S. output,having written, among other titles, **The Demon** also drawn by John McCrea.

CUT OUT COUPON ALONG DOTTED LINE

Circle the correct answers from the following four questions

**Which American title was the first to feature Ennis's work?**
*a) Hellraiser*
*b) Hellblazer*
*c) Hell's Angel*

**Which artist collaborated with Ennis on the DC title The Demon?**
*a) John McCrea*
*b) Johnny Ray*
*c) Aunt May*

**Who co-created the Preacher DC Vertigo title with Ennis?**
*a) Steve Dillon*
*b) Bob Dylan*
*c) Matt Dillon*

**What was the title of Ennis's first series, published in Fleetway's Crisis?**
*a) Doubled Bowls*
*b) Stubbled Foals*
*c) Troubled Souls*

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# ADVANCE LISTINGS: UK

*With the majority of UK-produced comics, trade paperbacks and graphic novels not readily available, the following listing of material to be published next month gives readers the opportunity to order specific titles through newsagents, bookshops or specialist outlets. As such, only titles nationally distributed through federated news outlets are included. All dates, prices and information are assumed to be accurate as provided by publishers. Late shipping, cancellations and changes in content will be detailed in future issues of* ***Comics International****.*

*Compiled by Kerry-Ann Hurley*

*Key to abbreviations used:*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| *1 & 2 + 3* | = | *Writer & penciller + inker* |
| *wkly* | = | *weekly frequency* |
| *ftnly* | = | *fortnightly frequency* |
| *mthly* | = | *monthly frequency* |
| *o/s* | = | *oversized, larger than A4* |
| *dgst* | = | *small, approx A5 sized* |
| *sqbd* | = | *perfect bound; squared spine; without staples* |
| *b&w* | = | *black & white contents* |
| *clr* | = | *full colour contents* |
| *pc* | = | *part-colour contents* |
| *gn* | = | *graphic novel* |
| *thbk* | = | *trade hardback edition* |
| *tpbk* | = | *trade paperback, squarebound, comic size* |
| *Xpgs* | = | *number of interior pages* |
| *Mature* | = | *recommended for mature readers, may contain nudity, sex and/or extreme violence.* |

## TITLES ON SALE: MARCH

### ARF CARTOONS

O **Smut: The Alternative Comic 78** (mthly; various) Adult humour comic strips featuring Roy Chubby Brown, The Booze Bros and others. Mature. 40pgs pc .... £1.50

### ARF CARTOONS

O **Star Wars Boxed Set** (various) A boxed set containing three colour *Star Wars* tradepaperbacks: **A New Hope, The Empire Strikes Back** and **The Return of the Jedi**. Set ..... £14.99

### DC THOMSON

O **Beano 2850-2853** (wkly; various) Humour strips including: Dennis the Menace and Gnasher and Minnie the Minx. 24pgs clr ..... £0.42

O **Beano Comic Library Monthly 359-360** (2 per mth; dgst; various) Extra-long strips featuring the **Beano** characters. 68pgs pc ..... £0.55

O **Beano Superstars 63** (mthly; various) One complete full-length strip per issue. 36pgs clr ..... £1.10

O **Bunty 2042-2046** (wkly; various) Picture and photo stories plus features for girls. 32pgs pc ..... £0.60

O **Bunty Picture Library 438-439** (2 per mth; dgst; various) A full-length reprint comic strip for girls each issue. 68pgs b&w ..... £0.55

O **Classics from the Comics 11** (mthly; various) Reprinting classic DC Thomson strips from the past. 68pg b&w£1.20

O **Commando Action & Adventure Stories 3027-3034** (8 per mth; dgst; various) War strips set mostly in World War II. 68pgs b&w ..... £0.55

O **Dandy 2885-2888** (wkly; various) Humour anthology including regulars: Desperate Dan and Korky the Cat. 24pgs clr ..... £0.42

O **Dandy Comic Library Monthly 335-336** (2 per mth; various) Extra long strips of the favourite **Dandy** characters. 68pgs pc ..... £0.55

O **Football Picture Story Monthly 259-260** (2 per mth; various) Comic strip soccer stories. 68pgs b&w .. £0.55

O **Mandy & Judy 303-307** (wkly; various) Comic strips plus features and pet pin-ups. 32pgs pc ..... £0.60

O **Mandy & Judy Picture Library 260-261** (2 per mth; dgst; various) One full-length comic story per issue. 68pg b&w ..... £0.55

### FLEETWAY EDITIONS

O **Ace Ventura Pet Detective 6** (mthly; various) Ace Ventura in super sleuth spoof stories, farcical film clips and snigger-some sketches! clr ... £1.20

O **Buster 55 & 56** (ftnly; various) Humour comic strips starring Buster, Chalky and other regulars. 32pgs clr £1.00

O **Disney's Big Time 10 & 11** (ftnly; various) Magazine format including articles, puzzles, photos and Disney comic strips. 52pgs clr £1.20

O **Judge Dredd Megazine Vol 3 #27** (mthly; various) Anthology featuring: *The Inspectre: Damned Spirits All* (Campbell + Walker & Gillespie); the continuation of *Judge Dredd: Fetish* (Smith & Siku); *Hershey: I Don't Believe in Love* (Wigmore); and the reprint of *Necropolis* (Wagner & Ezquerra). 44pgs clr £2.00

O **Sonic the Comic 99-100** (ftnly; various) Featuring the long-awaited showdown between Sonic and the evil Dr Robotnik plus computer game reviews. 36pgs clr ... £1.25

O **Tom & Jerry 37** (mthly; various) Comic strip humour from the cat and mouse duo. 44pgs clr ..... £1.25

O **2000AD 1033-1036** (wkly; various) Celebrating the 20th anniversary of the title, prog 1033 features Dredd one-offs: *Judge Dredd: He Came From Outer Space* (Wagner & Murray) and *Judge Dredd: The Hunting Party* (Wagner & Phillips) with continuing series: *Slaine: King of Hearts* (Mills & Percival) and *Mercy Heights* (Tomlinson & Walker) plus a free 16pg replica of **2000AD** prog #1. New stories starting in #1034 are *Judge Dredd: Lost in Americana* (Wagner & Hairsine) and *Al's Baby: Public Enemy No 1* (Wagner & Ezquerra) and the free gift is a 16pg supplement entitled **3000AD Prog 1** which features art by Kev Walker, Carl Critchlow, Jason Brashill, S.B. Davies and Henry Flint. All stories continue with the addition of *The Adventures of Nikolai Dante* (R. Morrison & Fraser) in prog 1035. The free gift with this prog is an A2 poster and with prog 1036, there is a free 16pg *Havoc* supplement. 36pgs clr . £1.10

### KNOCKABOUT COMICS

NEW O **Women Out Of Line** (tpbk; various) A humour anthology featuring the work of award winning British women cartoonists. An exhibition of the artwork will be shown at The Cartoon Art Trust gallery in London as well as at UKCAC in March. 80pgs b&w ..... £9.99

### THE MAG FACTORY

O **Zit 77** (mthly; various) Adult humour comic strips featuring Drugs Den, Dirty Stan and others. Mature. 48pgs pc ..... £1.50

### MAI COMICS

O **Spit 51** (mthly; various) Adult humour strips with Teenage Mum, Ugly Dudley, The Twats Nextdoor and others. Mature. 52pgs pc £1.35

### MARVEL (UK)

O **Action Man 7** (4-wkly; various) Comics adventures of the toy soldier. 24pgs clr £1.25

O **Amazing X-Men 16** (4-wkly; various) Reprinting various tales from Marvel US's **Generation X** and **X-Men** titles. 44pgs clr ..... £1.25

O **Astonishing Spider-Man 19** (4-wkly; various) Reprints three Marvel US Spider-Man titles. 72pgs clr ..... £1.99

O **Doctor Who Magazine 250** (mthly; various) Features, news, plus a new comic strip. 52pgs pc ..... £3.00

O **Essential X-Men 19** (4-wkly; various) Anthology reprinting stories from US X-Men titles, plus features. 72pgs clr ..... £1.99

O **Rug Rats 16** (4-wkly; various) Comic strips and features based on the Nickelodeon Sky TV series. 24pgs clr ..... £0.95

O **Spectacular Spider-Man 20** (4-wkly; various) Reprint of an issue of a Marvel US Spider-Man title. 36pgs clr .. £1.40

O **Wolverine Unleashed 7** (4-wkly; various) Reprinting Marvel US strips of the most popular X-Men character. 76pgs clr ..... £1.99

### THE REDAN COMPANY

O **I Love to Read Batman 23** (mthly; various) Comic strips, games and posters, etc featuring DC heroes. 32pgs clr ..... £1.15

### SAVOY BOOKS

NEW O **The Adventures of Meng & Ecker** (tpbk; Britton & Guido) A large book-format edition of the comic that was declared obscene. Gathering the best and most contentious stories from early issues as well as 60% new material. Mature. 256pg b&w ..... £9.99

### TITAN BOOKS

O **Batman Legacy** (tpbk; Grant + Moench + Dixon & various) ***Rescheduled from January.*** A sequel to the **Batman: Contagion** collection set in the aftermath of the plague that almost destroyed Gotham. Batman discovers that the ebola virus, thought to have been eliminated has in fact mutated into something far deadlier. 256pgs clr . £10.99

O **The Comic Book Price Guide 1997/8 Edition** (tpbk; McAlpine) Expanded and updated from last year's edition giving both US and UK prices for a vast range of comics. 848pgs pc ..... £14.99

O **Hellblazer: Fear and Loathing** (tpbk; Ennis & Dillon) ***Rescheduled from January.*** When Constantine's niece starts dabbling in magic, and racial tensions flare in London, Constantine unwittingly causes the downfall of an archangel from Heaven. This in turn leads to his own fall from grace. Mature. 160pgs clr . . . . . £9.99

O **Hitman** (tpbk; Ennis & McCrea) Tommy Monaghan is a hitman, but he only kills superpowered or supernatural beings, and then only truly deserving cases. Collecting the first three issues of the DC series plus the first ever Hitman appearance in **Demon Annual** #2 and the rare **Batman Chronicles** #4 appearance. 144pgs clr £6.99

O **Preacher: Until the End of the World** (tpbk; Ennis & Dillon) Titan's second collection of the provocative and irreverent **Preacher** series from DC Vertigo. This time, the man looking for God meets the family from Hell! Mature. 264pgs clr . . . . . £9.99

O **Simpsons Comics Featuring Bartman: Best of the Best** (tpbk; Strnad + Glasberg & Morrison) ***Rescheduled from January.*** Bart Simpson takes to the rooftops of Springfield to fight crime as Bartman. Wearing a purple mask and cape and with a cry of "Aye Caramba!" Bart encounters abominable aliens, voracious vigilantes and foul fiends. 160pgs clr . . . £6.99

O **Space: Above & Beyond** (tpbk; Thomas) ***Rescheduled from November.*** It is the year 2063AD and Earth colonists on a galactic outposts are attacked by a warlike alien race. Space marines led by Lt. Col T. C. McQueen are mobilised to defend them. 128pgs clr £8.99

O **The X-Files: Night Lights** (tpbk; various) ***Rescheduled from February.*** When a World War II pilot — lost in the Bermuda Triangle over 40 years ago — suddenly reappears, unaffected by the passage of time, Mulder and Scully are called upon to investigate the bizarre theory of atmospheric life forms. 128pgs clr . . . . . £9.99

## TITAN MAGAZINES

O **Gargoyles 6** (mthly; various) Featuring a full length action/ adventure strip based on the new animated TV series showing on GMTV. Goliath must battle against a humanoid Gargoyle who looks just like Ellisa... 32pgs clr . . . . £1.20

O **The Mask Adventures 14** (4-wkly; various) Featuring a full length comic strip, posters, puzzles, games and competitions. 32pgs clr £1.20

O **The Real Adventures of Jonny Quest 6** (mthly; various) Reprinting a full length comic strip with puzzles, posters, character profiles, competitions and TV episode guides. 32pgs clr . . . . £1.20

O **Simpsons Comic Magazine 2** (mthly; various) Featuring comic strips, character profiles, competitions puzzles and features in a large magazine format. Free giant poster. (#1 os Feb 18) 52pgs clr . £2.00

O **Space Above & Beyond 2** (mthly; various) Comic book tie-in to the SF series from the producers of *The X-Files* season one. The stories chronicle a war between Earth and a savage alien race and is told from the viewpoint of a group of space marines. Free button badge (#1 os Feb 6). 36pgs . . . . . £1.35

O **Star Trek Monthly 26** (mthly, various) Examining the series that never was — *Star Trek: Phase II*, plus an interview with Persis Khambatta and an excerpt from a new *Star Trek* novel. Also includes comic strips, the latest *Star Trek* news and free star prints. 68pgs clr . . . . . £3.15

O **Star Wars: The Official Magazine 8** (bi-mthly; various) A definitive guide to the *Star Wars* Universe with interviews, features, posters, news on the latest Lucas Films projects, reprint comic strips and a free covermounted gift tbc. 68pgs clr . . . . ***price increase*** £3.99

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# MEDIA FILE

*Associate editor Sarah Bolesworth looks at media coverage of comics and related product*

CARLTON's *Shift*, a series made by producers new to television, included this month a 15-minute feature on Superman's latest metamorphosis (7.2.97).

The regional series goes out in the early hours — a zone usually reserved for low-tiders such as reruns of *Murder She Wrote*, *Miami Vice* and *The Girlie Show*.

*Shift* is produced by Carlton TV as part of its franchise and has a non-commercial agenda: the Superman feature was a tribute to untapped talent's quality in the UK, whatever the medium.

Simon Ragoonanan's film included interviews with BBC Radio 1's *Superman* series producer Dirk Maggs; **CI** editor Derek Skinn; National Cartoon Arts Trust director; and Forbidden Planet's Jan Wiacek. It was well-researched and fun, stylishly evading all the pratfalls comics provoke in TV.

Ragoonanan may be as yet only a small fish in a dull ocean but he's doing the right thing, and doing it well.

### Out come the freaks

RAGOONANAN's take on Superman could be a sign that perceptions of comics are changing. Frances Wheen, **The Guardian**'s columnist, confessed this month that his skill with words was attributable to comics.

Appearing on a BBC Radio 4 quiz, Wheen recalled that his verbal dexterity began with the **Beano** crossword.

Another media familiar, Alan Clark — the Tory Minister turned dirty diarist — has revealed that he, too, has an interest in comics.

Clark, who is running for the Kensington and Chelsea constituency in the election, admitted in **The Guardian**'s profile, *My Media* (10.2.97), that he likes to read **Viz**. They do say that he is a clever man, and but for sexual overdrive he would have been in the Cabinet now.

### By the book

COULD Time Warner's Superman overdrive lose the character his place at the high table? On *Shift*, Dirk Maggs decried the way that *Lois and Clark: The New Adventures of Superman* had turned the character soapy.

But what the TV series has done is return Superman to the post-war mass audiences, and some Forties comics *were* soapy. Comics characters cannot afford to be exclusive. To survive the recession the industry needs characters with broad appeal.

But that does not imply a loss of intrinsic values. Comics always were commercial, as well as much else.

Comics do soap well, and for that matter TV does sometimes. The question is of product not genre and of people, not formula.

### Drowning by numbers

IT WAS formula that got Marvel into financial trouble: the kind of formula that says, *I will pay you to take my company away from me* to a character like Ronald Perelman.

**The Wall Street Journal** came out to some effect this month in its feature, "Mythic Titans Battle Over a Comic Empire – or Vice Versa", dissecting the relative credibility of Perelman and Carl Icahn, the *other* financier — who threatened to step in on behalf of Marvel's small shareholders.

The **Journal**, assuming that Icahn's intention was to rescue Marvel, said: "He can afford to pick a fight just to amuse himself. If he were serious about taking over Marvel and running it, he could have raised the bid on Mr Perelman."

Holman W. Jenkins Jr, who wrote the **Journal**'s piece, spoke in what sounded like the voice of experience. Had he been one of the small "folks" who had suffered real losses due to the Perelman effect? The losers included, incidentally, Merrill Lynch, one of Wall Street's biggest stockbrokers.

There was a postscript to Jenkins Jr's comments on Icahn, however: "He's been known to quote poetry in the midst of takeover battles".

Well that's it, then. He's either an English actor or a Real Human Being who will, like Robin Hood, relieve the rich of their ill-gottens and give it to poor shareholders.

But it's more likely that he's just not prepared to risk the capital it would take to make Marvel worth rescuing.

**The Wall Street Journal**'s writer, having detailed the incompetence and bad judgement characterising Marvel's decline, failed to pursue his argument to its logical conclusion: weakness in Marvel itself gave Perelman the chance to sink his teeth into the company's assets.


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# FRAME TO FRAME

*Comics have had a strong interaction with film and TV for as long as each has existed, inspired by the other through license or plagiarism. Mike Conroy looks at the latest events.*

## Death mini-series optioned for movie

**IT HAS been announced that Neil Gaiman is writing a screenplay based on his 1993 three-issue series, Death: The High Cost of Living, published by DC's Vertigo imprint.**

The series has been optioned by Warner Bros with Jane Hamsher and Don Murphy of JD Productions — producers of Oliver Stone's *Natural Born Killers* and the forthcoming *Apt Pupil* — producing. Gaiman, who had been pursuing this project for over two years, has been mentioned as possible director.

The original mini-series — written by Gaiman and illustrated by Chris Bachalo and Mark Buckingham — relates the story of Death, one of the Endless in the guise of a young woman. Once every hundred years she must spend 24 hours as a mortal so she can learn the value of the lives she claims. The series followed her during one such 24 hour period in contemorary America.

While *Death* marks Gaiman's first feature film credit, he has previously written for the small screen with the BBC-TV serial *Neverwhere*. He recently signed a $1 million deal with Avon Books for three novels of which an adapatation of *Neverwhere* is to be the first.

As well as *Death*, Warner Bros also has Gaiman's magnum opus, **The Sandman**, in development through Peters Entertainment.

## Comicana debuts

**COMIC fans with access to satellite television *might* have caught the premiere of *Comicana*, a new monthly programme devoted to comics.**

Hosted by Caroline Tudor and Duncan MacAlpine, editor of *The Comic Book Price Guide*, the first half-hour programme aired on the Sci-Fi Channel on Tuesday, 21st January at 9.00pm.

The show, which has been sneaked out on the quiet with no press releases or build-up, is being broadcast in six monthly instalments and features comic writers and artists, collectors and celebrities as well as providing the latest news and gossip on the comics industry.

## Zippy gets animated

**SHOWING that the screen's love of comics continues apace, two days before Warner Bros announced new episodes of *Batman* (see below), Sunbow Entertainment disclosed that it had acquired the rights to Bill Griffith's *Zippy the Pinhead*.**

Born out of the 1960s underground comix movement, Zippy the Pinhead went mainstream with a cartoon strip version syndicated by King Features Syndicate to such influential papers as *The Washington Post* and *The San Francisco Examiner* and more than 200 others throughout America across the last 10 years.

In addition, Fantagraphic Books publishes a line of *Zippy the Pinhead* compilation albums collecting the newspaper strips.

"Satire and character are my main stocks in trade," said Griffith of his work. "I guess I like to make people look at interesting artwork, then laugh and fall down."

Fantagraphics also publishes **Zippy Quarterly**. This 32-page magazine reprints 120 classic and current daily strips plus 10 Sundays in full colour.

The next issue (#15) goes on sale in March, priced $3.95.

The president of Sunbow, C.J. Kuttler, commented, "*Zippy the Pinhead* spans both mainstream and underground cultures and appeals to a wide age range, which gives the project massive potential, both as a cartoon series and in worldwide merchandising and licensing.

"Sunbow plans to develop an animated series for the 18-34 year old market and a complementary merchandising program," he continued. "In line with Sunbow's successful policy of nurturing creator-driven projects, we are looking forward to working closely with Zippy's creator Bill Griffith whose talent, vision and off-beat sense of humour have brought him a loyal following of dedictated fans from all walks of life."

Sunbow — a US family entertainment company — had developed and produced both *The Tick* and *The Mask* for television.

## X-Men movie developments

**BRYAN Singer, director of *The Usual Suspects*, is in the final stages of negotiation to direct a movie adaptation of Marvel Comics' best-selling super-hero team, the X-Men.**

"We're taking the whole matter seriously," Singer stated. "This will not be a comic book style film... The story deals with the origins of the characters, but it's not completely based on the first comic book."

In related news, it was also announced that a *Silver Surfer* movie is currently in development at Fox Family Films with Geoffrey (*Romper Stomper*) Wright set to direct.

## Skeleton Key update

**SUNBOW Entertainment (see also *Zippy gets animated* — above) is developing a 26-part animated series based on Andi Watson's creation, Skeleton Key, the story of a young girl who discovers a "skeleton key" which opens doors to a multitude of dimensions.**

The animated series will be aimed at children aged 10 to 17 and Sunbow president C.J. Kettler described **Skeleton Key** as "the perfect property to translate into contemporary animation".

Sunbow anticipates that the show will air in a Saturday morning slot.

Watson — who recently relocated back to Leeds from California — remarked that, "There's a hole in the market that hasn't been fully tapped yet and new shows like *The Secret World of Alex Mack* and *Clarissa Explains It All* have shown there's a big audience for series with female heroines."

"Hopefully," he added, "*Skeleton Key* will be able to encourage more young girls to watch animated shows and, from that, to read comics."

**Skeleton Key** is published by Slave Labor Graphics which also published Watson's earlier work on **Murder Can Be Fun** and **Samurai Jam**.

## New animated Batman episodes

**THIS autumn, US TV audiences will get a chance to see all-new episodes of the *Batman* animated series.**

On 15th January, Jean MacCurdy, president of Warner Bros Television Animation and head of programming for the Kids' WB! — the Warner Bros Television Network's children's programming service — announced that new *Batman* episodes will be added to the Kids' WB! schedules.

These will be broadcast on an alternating daily basis with episodes of the new *Superman* animated series.

Kevin Conroy will reprise his role as the voice of Batman and Bruce Wayne while Loren Lester, who formerly voiced Robin and Dick Grayson, will now portray the "newly created" character of Nightwing.

In these new *Batman* episodes, Nightwing — a grown-up, more sophisticated Dick Grayson — is an established super-hero in his own right, following a closer comics route than the Batman movies.

Other well-known celebrities lending their (voice) talents to the series are the good old stand-bys: Efrem Zimbalist Jr., Mark Hamill, singer/composer Paul Williams, John Glover, Adrienne Barbeau, Ed Asner and the little-known George Dzundza.

The series is being produced by the same creative team responsible for the successful current *Superman* animated series.

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# nETWORKS

*A monthly round-up of comics news, opinions and gossip, as appearing on the Internet. Compiled by Richard J Johnston*

## Marvel royalties

PRIOR to the official Marvel Chapter 11 Bankruptcy announcement, Warren Ellis reported on the Net: *I got a royalty cheque from Marvel Comics today. So they are paying their bills.*

But at least one other appears not to have fared so well: John Byrne commented: *About a month ago Marvel contacted me to tell me they owed me a vast amount of money for various characters I created, they'd just sort of neglected to pay me. So I sent back the necessary forms and today I received five notifications that Marvel is filing for bankruptcy. So I guess I won't be getting that vast amount of money.*

## Byrne crosses over

NEWS of Byrne's **Superman/New Gods** crossover broke on the Net and Byrne was quick to write: *Basically, this is stuff I started to set up in* **Action** *#600, the destruction of the original God World having created all the Gods in the universe which I am developing further in* **Jack Kirby's Fourth World**. *That idea is being developed even further to tie-in the whole DC universe, the big crossover, which allegedly I will be scripting. Well, at least the bookends.*

John Byrne also posted: *I do plan a* **Batman/Captain America** *prequel and sequels.* The prequel, currently being referred to unofficially as **"1939"** and proposed for release next year, would deal with the 1939 incarnations of Batman and Superman partly commemorating Superman's 60th birthday. The sequels involving Marvel heroes, could be along the lines of "JSInvaders" or "JLAvengers."

## Nick gets Caged

MANIA (smash.mgz.com) interviewed Marvel maestro Stan Lee, who brought up an interesting titbit about Nicholas Cage (set to play Tony Stark/Iron Man). Stan said: *Do you know how he got the name Nicholas Cage? His name used to be Nicholas Coppola, because he was related to Francis Ford Coppola, and he didn't want to cash in on the family name so he looked around for a name to give himself, and we had a comic book called* **Luke Cage**. *He loved the book, so he took the name.*

## Moorcock at DC

STUART Moore (dcomoore@aol.com), DC's Helix line editor, was able to hint in a Michael Moorcock discussion: *I may have some very, very good news for you in the near future. Sorry, can't say any more yet...* But, it wasn't long before more details were forthcoming.

Among the announcements were the cancellation of **Cyberella** and the continuation of **Vermillion**. New launches are set to include:

- **Transmetropolitan** by Warren Ellis and Darick Robertson
- **Bloody Mary 2** by Garth Ennis and Carlos Ezquerra
- **The Dome** by Dave Gibbons and Angus McKie
- **Sheva's War** by Chris Moeller
- **Michael Moorcock's Multiverse.** Stuart Moore added: *Yes, he's really writing it (that may be our ad tag line).*

## Image and substance

MUCH discussion has taken place over the move of many self-published titles to Image, via Larsen, Lee and Valentino.

Bradley Peterson (marvspawn@barefacts bbs.com) was able to present sales figures for **Strangers In Paradise** through its changing publishers.

Interesting sales examples were Image #3 (25,800); Abstract #11 (13,700); Abstract #9 (11,800) and Antarctic #2: 2,300!

While time and retailer experience gradually increased orders, the announcement of the move to Image, and the move itself, more than doubled sales.

## Moore's Extreme

MIKE Doran (XZYP03E@prodigy .com) was able to give us news of what Alan Moore has been up to: *Extreme Studios has announced plans for Alan Moore to engineer a major restructuring of its entire fictional universe, beginning with a major new project called* **Judgement Day**. *Projected as a three issue series,* **Judgement Day** *will be written by Alan Moore and is currently slated to begin shipping in May.*

Moore himself was equally enthused, stating wryly: *I've always wanted to create a universe.* The premise, he added, as follows: *When a long-standing member of* **Youngblood** *is suddenly and brutally slain at a team-mate's hands, a mystery is ignited that strikes straight at the heart of the Extreme Universe. Ultimately, the task of bringing the murderer to justice and unravelling the mystery falls on the shoulders of the entire superhero community of the Extreme Universe... and the only clue they have to work with is an ancient tome, the history of which spans centuries.*

*Supreme calls together the entire superhero community of Extreme Earth to pass judgement on the murderous Youngblood member in a trial the likes of which no one on Earth has witnessed before. The lives of Glory, Supreme, Prophet, Youngblood and the New Men will be changed forever.*

*Through it all, the entire Extreme Universe is tied together, mixing everything that was ever cool about comics in one rich and expansive milieu.*

## Jim Lee on Surfer

JIM Lee was telling all about **Heroes Reborn** on the Wildstorm website: *Galactus doesn't send the Silver Surfer out just looking for planets with life-force to eat. What he does is, he's like a farmer: he sends out these pods of genetic material all over the universe. They land on planets and grow, they evolve, and the Surfer checks on them, to see which areas are ripe, and then calls in Galactus.*

*And then after Heroes Reborn comes Heroes Return, where they all come back, but they're not the same as when they left. I don't know how exactly they're going to pull that off ...*

## To Cap things off...

FOLLOWING yet another posting that Rob Liefeld had been taken off **Captain America**, Marvel editor Tom Brevoort (kitchent@aol.com) was quick to respond: *Nope. Stephen Platt is pencilling* **Captain America** *under Rob as per the conditions of Rob's contract with Marvel, which calls for him to do six of the 12 issues. He's done that, and his deal is still in force at this date.*

## Marvel retreat

Brian Vickers (brian.r.vickers@jpl.nasa.gov) was able to report *Sometime this week all Marvel writers will be attending a huge Marvel retreat to brainstorm together on the topic of "How to make Marvel better." This retreat will take place in upstate New York at the mansion featured in Hitchcock's* North by Northwest. *Marvel has rented the entire place for this retreat.*

Peter David (padguy@aol.com) posted: *One thing struck me during those massive plotting sessions: I think about the fans who comment that Marvel creators don't care at all about the comics, or just hack stuff out, or are cynical. Because the arguments that ensued were so strident, so passionate and so caring, that it just reaffirmed for me how dedicated everyone on the creative side at Marvel is to producing the best comics possible. Now you may not like what finally gets published; that is, ultimately, your call to make. But everyone in that room really, truly, tries their best. And hopefully you'll like what we finally come up with.*

## Wagner's Mystery

MIKE Doran (mike-doran@prodigy.com) posted: *Matt Wagner has confirmed that he is stepping down as full-time plotter on* **Sandman Mystery Theater**. *but that "negotiations are under way for Robinson (James) and I to co-write our version of the origin of the Justice Society America".*

Wagner also posted: *The six to eight issue mini-series would be co-written by myself and James and concern the formation of the Society. The plan is to have a variety of artists draw the various character's short stories—ala the old* **All Star Comics**, *all leading to their first meeting as the group.*

## Price of Priest

Christopher Priest (cll24j90@rmii.com) posted: *A debate has been raging along the halls of DC: paper quality vs. price point. They are shipping* **Xero**, *my upcoming series, on standard format paper and both the editors and myself have tried unsuccessfully to have the paper upgraded. The logic behind the paper choice seems to be the nicer paper would cost you an extra quarter or something out on the newsstand, and that would possibly handicap a new title.*

*Our position is, cheap paper sends the wrong message to the fan base. When I see a new title coming out in standard format, I can't help but wonder about the company's commitment to the title (with the notable exception of titles with established characters, like* **Aquaman** *— which launched successfully in the standard format —and* **Aztek**, *which was deliberately intended as a standard format book to attain a Silver Age "feel").*

Which all sounds a wee bit elitist to us. Let's keep 'em cheap!

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*Hi Peoples,*

We've had a large influx of stock over the holiday period and, since, the turn of the year, the trend has accelerated. So much so that its taking quite a time to sort and catalogue it all. Once the job is complete though we'll have another catalogue out to rival or exceed our pre-holiday 72 pager. That 72 pages by the way, expires on February 28th 1997. If you are reading this before that date, we can send you a copy, all you have to do is call. If you are reading this after February 28th then the new one won't be too far away. Probably early April.

In the meantime in addition to Heavy Metals and other items its past time that we offered you Marvel comics again. With the company dropping into Chapter Eleven bankruptcy and in all likelihood ceasing self distribution to go back to Diamond, its probably safe to say that, at present, The House of Ideas is more like the House of Chaos. Call it what you will, it won't stop us from offering you Marvel Comics at bargain prices.

The more the merrier, I say.

We ran out of time before completing our Marvel listings and Dez quite rightly, won't move his publishing deadlines for anyone, even us, so in this 8 pages you'll only find a partial Marvel listing. We're working the rest of the titles and will offer you a fully refreshed Marvel listing soon. In the meantime, don't wait, order what's available here, because based on past experience, at our prices, all comics, especially Marvels, move fast!

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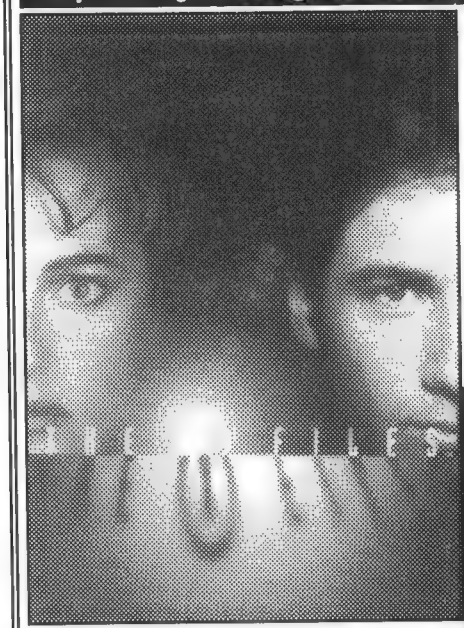
Please note: to improve the efficiency of order processing, picking and dispatch, please use the computer codes used for each title e.g. DC9000: DC vs Marvel, DC907: Legends of the Dark Claw: it is extremely helpful if you give the relevant computer code with your order, whether verbally, with telephone orders, or when listing written orders.

The prices in this advertisement are valid from publication until April 30th 1997. Please remember that all our advertisements and offerings are normally self contained.

*continued on next page....*

**Representing "Your Right to Read". We believe you have the right to be able to afford and enjoy fantasy entertainment.**




## The X-Files comes to life in a brand new Collectible Card Game.

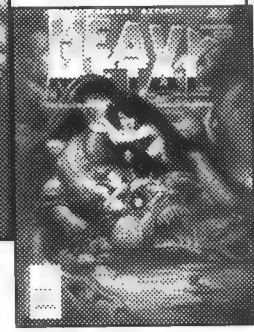
Players can capture the same suspense and intrigue of the X-Files as they construct unique conspiracies surrounding Agents, Sites, Events, Witnesses and many other categories in an attempt to solve their opponent's conspiracy. The mysteries lay beneath every corner and behind every card. The closer each player comes to the truth, the more powerful the conspiracy becomes. Only two rules apply ...Deny Everything... Trust No One. The game is introduced in a set of 354 cards with images taken directly from seasons one, two and three of THE X FILES television show. Cards are available in 60-card Starter Decks (MSRP $9.50). 15-card Booster Packs (MSRP $2.99) are also available allowing players to enhance their decks and increase the challenge.

The game may be played with TWO or more players and can be customized to fit the needs of the basic to advance player.

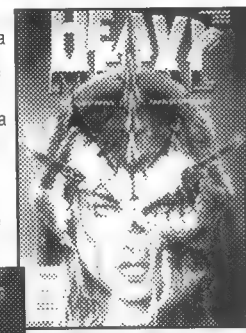
EACH STARTER DECK of 60 cards comes with two rule books, The Standard Official Rules & Procedures Manual and The Advanced Rules & Procedures Manual.

**X2000 X-FILES COLLECTIBLE CARD GAME:**
**Starter Deck of 60 cards with Rule Books**
**.....£5.87 plus £1.03 VAT = £6.90**
**X2000B Single Fifteen Card Booster Pack of The X-Files Collectible Card Game**
**.....£1.69 + 30p VAT = £1.99**
***Boosters come in Boxes of 36 packs: If a full box is required then please order 36 packs.***

Heavy Metal, the Adult Fantasy Magazine is published bi-monthly (6 per year) with quarterly specials. It's produced by Kevin Eastman as part of his Metal Mammoth Productions and showcases the best of avant gard and futuristic European and other art from around the world. As much of the content is adult oriented, Heavy Metal falls firmly into our 18+ category and therefore an age statement is mandatory should you wish to order copies of this magnificent magazine.




**H707 HEAVY METAL**
**September 1996** featuring a small gallery of art by Manara. Another episode of Museum by Fernando de Filipe. The longest piece is a convoluted entertaining tale about a team of fired Hollywood executives who creep back to the lot to re-create their successes. The movies become confused with reality, characters and "real" people jump between scenes and plots. Action adventure, time travel square jawed heroes and beautiful dames are all lovingly portrayed in this massive multi-page extravaganza called RAUL FULGUREX IN THE MUTINEERS ARE REVOLTING by Tronchet & Gelli.
ON THE ROAD AGAIN - CALYPSO ROCK by Baru is a surreal story of the clash between Rock, Calypso & Disco. NO MANS LAND by Lorenzo Diaz and Carlos Puerta switches between a pilot's horror filled experiences during World War 1 and his equal horror in 20's America when joining the Klu Klux Klan.
TOWARDS A NEW BEGINNING by Azpiri is a sweet tale of Robots looking for reasons to exist. Other shorts include RASPUTIN by Manara. 120 pages US $4.50 UK £3.50.
**WAREHOUSE PRICE. £1.95**




**H708 HEAVY METAL**
**November 1996**
another 120 page extravaganza of Fantasy. In NOISE FROM THE CEILING AGAIN by Caza, decide for yourself whether its racist or not. MAELSTROM by D. Fabbri, 2071 crime noir set in BladeRunner Territory plus the usual short vignettes like the one about the doctor who has to be a vetenarian, the cops who have to put down a riot; and a futuristic golden shower.
Other stories include THE PLEASURE OF LOVE by Frezatto, a sex fable with a double take twist ending and the latest adventure of those galactic con men BURTON & CYB who've landed up on a planet of telepaths. You can't scam someone who can read your mind, so how do they get out of this one.
US $4.50 UK £3.50
**WAREHOUSE PRICE.£1.95**

**H709: HEAVY METAL**
**January 1997**
Fans of THE TRIGAN EMPIRE and anyone who loves exquisitely rendered anatomically realistic art in futuristic settings are going to salivate over the main story in this issue. Its STORM: THE LIVING PLANET by Don Lawrence and Martin Lodewijk.
When "Look and Learn" the weekly comic ceased publication and its best strip TRIGAN EMPIRE went into limbo, the creative artist of TRIGAN, Don Lawrence found new challenges in mainland Europe where he created the long running warrior / soldier of fortune STORM - relatively few Storm episodes have been translated into English so this 46 page story is something of an event. Let's hope that Kevin (Eastman) comes up with more Don Lawrence work in the future.
Other highlights in this first issue of 1997 include a 10 page gallery by Simon Bisley of development concepts for the second Heavy Metal Movie F.A.K.K.2.
ASTROPORT by Azpiri in which his nubile scantily clad heroine as usual looses her clothes in combat with creatures after her luscious bod.
The whole 120 page issue rounded out with the usual shocking shorts including the surreal TIGHTROPE WALKER and the absolutely butt clenching CONTRACT.
US $4.95 UK £3.50
**WAREHOUSE PRICE.£1.95**

**H683: HEAVY METAL SPECIAL EDITION**
**Fall 1996 Special:**
Featuring a 64 page Graphic Novel SINKHA. SINKHA has been five years in the making. In 1991 Italian science fiction author / artist Marco Patrito began to develop a story about a young girl trapped on a foreboding planet. The entire work has been composed using 3D computer graphics. The 64 page story is enhanced by an eight page section which details the genesis of the project, initial and subsequent design work, how many people had to be brought on board and some of the trials and tribulation involved in the project before it came to fruition.
The Fall 1996 Special contains other excellent work as well. Such as TUMBLEWEED by Kordej and Django a wild western style road movie story of intercut realities and dream sequences induced by paranoia and marijuana progressing through ultra violence and culminating weirdly with rites of passage and a chase on a Navaho Reservation.
THE RIDDLE OF THE IRON MASK sets up this elderly, old man who believes that he is, or should be Tin Tin, plus another sexy extravaganza from Azpiri.
US $4.95 UK £3.50
**WAREHOUSE PRICE.£1.95**

*Other issues of Heavy Metal can be found in our current catalogue, available on demand.*

After breaking with that tradition with our 72 pager at the end of last year, we are now re-imposing it to get back on track.

All advertisements and offerings are back to being self contained.

All prices are per copy or per individual unit except for set and pack prices which are for single sets or single packs as advertised.

With the recent editorial openness and relaxation of attitudes becoming evident in mainstream comics, books and other products, we have revised our age requirement for mature items from 16 to 18. Therefore, in future, should you wish to order any mature titles, from 'Preacher' to 'Flowers on the Razor Wire' or 'Heavy Metal', we must have an honest age statement that you are over eighteen years before we can ship any mature titles to you (that also includes mature and adult oriented trading cards).

Mail, Fax or Phone your order to us, and let the postman and the courier companies do the walking on your behalf. That's the great thing about ordering by mail, its an armchair purchase. And at The Comics Warehouse prices you get so much more bang for your buck and savings for your sterling, that its easier to let the courier carry the weight, then you can take more pleasure from your purchase.

At The Warehouse you'll find that our bottom line is service.

Service at the best prices we can bring you. So scour this ad for bargains as well as great offers, then read what you buy and enjoy what you read.

Look forward to hearing from you.

*Colin and The Warehouse Crew*

PS: If you are interested in our Advance Order Service for New Comics and Books, send a £3.50 payment for a catalogue sample pack, thanks.

Way back in the early days of Marvel, Steve Gerber created Howard the Duck whilst on work for hire writing Man Thing at Marvel. Steve went on writing Man Thing whilst arguing with Marvel over the ownership of Howard. During his run on the title, he also created The Fool Killer - a crazy psycho who killed those he considered to be perps, whether they were or not. The Fool Killer appeared to strike a chord of avarice in the accounting mind and a ten issue Maxi Series was planned and published in 1990.

I don't know whether Steve was being impenetrable, humourous, sarcastic, or prescient in his choice of cover and caption for issue one. In the light of Marvel's penchant to only look at the bottom line over recent years, the Fool Killer's message has a ring of poetic justice about it.

**Representing "Your Right to Read". We believe you have the right to be able to afford and enjoy fantasy entertainment.**

**N5: THE ABOMINATIONS:** from the pages of The Hulk: Future Imperfect, The Abominations is a terror tale set in the alternate future world of The Maestro (the Hulk's intelligent despotic alter-ago). Writer Ivan Velez Jr, pencils Angel Medina, inks Brad Vancata. $1.50 No 1 .....£0.80

**N10: THE ADVENTURES OF CYCLOPS & PHOENIX:** 4 issue mini series originally $2.95 each. 2000 years in the future Scott Summers & Jean Grey begat a son... 1,3 .....£0.75

**N15: THE ADVENTURES OF SPIDERMAN:** a 1996 99 cent series based on the animated TV show written by Bel Yomtov, pencils Alex Saviuk and inks Rob Stull. 1,4-10 .....£0.45

**N20: THE ADVENTURES OF THE THING**: Ben Grimm, The Thing from the Fantastic Four stars in this 4 issue reprint mini series from 1992: with Tom Defalco writing, Issue 2 has Ron Wilson on pencils, Chic Stone in inks with Ben vs The Ghost Rider a reprint of Marvel 2 in 1 No 80 .....£0.25
No 3: Co stars The Avengers with pencils by Frank Miller, inks Bob McLeod, originally presented in Marvel 2 in 1 No 51 .£0.30
N0 4: pits Ben against The Man Thing in a reprint of Marvel 2 in 1 No 77 .....£0.20

**N25: THE ADVENTURES OF THE X MEN** New 99 cent budget priced comic series kicking off with Wolverine vs The Hulk by Ralph Maccio, Ben Herrera pencils and Mike Christian inks. 1,4-11.....£0.50

**N30: THE AGE OF APOCALYPSE: THE CHOSEN:** An X-Men bible giving full backgrounds to the heroes (and villains) chosen during the Age of Apocalypse $2.50 .....£1.25

**N35: ALF:** based on the TV series of a cuddly alien living with a middle American family. 4,8,9,10,18,40,41 ....£0.30

**N40: ALPHA FLIGHT**: John Byrne's definitive Canadian Super Group were continuously published for over ten years. Initially with story and art by John Byrne who laid the foundations for a group to rival The FF in their heyday. For good storytelling and great art you can't beat the Byrne Alpha Flights. When John moved on to other projects the character's adventures were helmed by upcoming luminaries like Jim Lee and Whilce Portacio. Inexpensive quality, that's Alpha Flight.
We offer you the adventures of Vindicator, Sasquatch, Shaman, Marrina, Puck, Snowbird and Aurora (not forgetting her brother Northstar, who later admits his homosexuality and comes out of the closet) who together form Alpha Flight. Their saga commences in 1983.
2,3 .....£0.50
4 .....£0.75
14,15,16,18,20,21 .....£0.40
24 Doublesized issue ..£0.50
30,31,32,34-49 ..... ..£0.40
50 Special doublesized issue contihues with the art of June Brigman and Whilce Portacio .....£0.50
51 Jim Lee's first work at Marvel in 1987, my my what a lot of things have happened in ten years.....£2.50
54,56,57 .....£0.50
58,59 Jim Lee issues at a special price of .....£0.40
60,61,62 .....£0.60
63,65-67,69-75,77, 78,80-84 .....£0.40
90 Special offer: Fabian Nicieza writer, Michael Blair pencils, Mike Manley inks, Guest Starring Wolverine.....£0.30
91-109 .....£0.50
112-117. .....£0.30
120,122,123 .....£0.50
124-127 .....£0.40
128-130 .....£0.60

**N50: ALPHA FLIGHT ANNUAL:**
1, 1986 .....£1.25
2, 1987 Bill Mantlo writer, June Brigman layouts, Bob McLeod finished art: Special offer .....£0.35

**N60: ALPHA FLIGHT SPECIAL 4 issue limited series (1991) 1,2,4 .....£0.40**

**N70: ALPHA FLIGHT SPECIAL** (1992) giant sized oneshot co-starring Wolverine who leads Alpha Flight on their first mission. Scott Lobdell & Simon Furman, script. Pat Broderick pencils, Bruce Patterson inks ($2.50) .....£0.75

**N72: AN AMERICAN TAIL: FIEVEL GOES WEST.** Speilberg's animated movie about a mouse ($1.00) 1,2,3 .....£0.30

**N90: AMAZING ADVENTURES** Vol 2: from 1981. Issue 4 reprints uncanny XMen No 8 from 1964: The story of Unus The Untouchable .....£0.50

**N100: AMAZING FANTASY** 15: Marvel Milestone reprint of the landmark introduction of Spider-Man: $2.95...£1.00

**N101: AMAZING FANTASY:** starring Spiderman: 30 odd years after the original Amazing Fantasy 15 introduced Peter Parker to the world, Marvel have produced Amazing Fantasy 16, 17 & 18 which continue to chronicle the Web Spinner's adventures in the period immediately after he was bitten by the radioactive spider.
Amazing Fantasy 16,17 ($3.95) .....£1.25
18 ($3.95) .....£2.25

**N104: AMAZING HIGH ADVENTURE** 1986 Colour anthology. Title 48 pages ($2.00) .....£0.75

**N110: THE AMAZING SCARLET SPIDER**: part of the Ben Reilley / Peter Parker Clone Saga: this title was a special; 2 issue run only $1.95
1 Special Offer.....£0.40
2 ..... £1.25

**N120: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN**
126 (20¢) (1973) The Kangaroo Bounces Back Gerry Conway script, Ross Andru artist, Jim Moony inker ..... £4.95
257: (60¢) (1984) Beware the Claws of The Puma, Tom de Falco, Ron Frenz & Joe Rubinstein .....£1.60
293: (75¢) 1987 'Crawling' part of The Last Hunt of Kraven story line.....£0.75
313 ($1.00) 1989 'Slitherines' with The Lizard and a giant shark: writer David Micheline, art Todd McFarlane. In the price guides all of Todd's work commands premium prices here at The Warehouse issue 313 is yours for a mere .....£0.75
314: "Down and Out in Forest Hills' is by the same team, David & Todd .... and Ta-raa we've got it at the same incredibly low price *just*..... ..£0.75
331: Spidy & Punisher, Erik Larsen pencils ..... ...£0.75
349: Larsen pencils .....£0.75
350: doublesized issue with the same continuing team of Micheline, Larsen & Emberlin .....£1.25
352-354, 357, 359, 368, 370, 371, 372, 376-377 .....£0.50
379-386 .....£0.40
387 ..... .....£0.60
388: doublesized issue 64 pages 'Life Theft' the final chapter reveals the final fate of Peter's parents 64 pages $2.25 ..... .....£0.95
389-390 .....£0.90
393: "Shrieking" pt 4 ....£0.75
396: Spidy & Daredevil by J.M. de Matties, Mark Bagley and Larry Mahlstedt.....£0.50
401: starts getting into Clone territory; with the Mark of Kaine storyline its a May 1996 issue US $1.50 UK £1.25 - *but from The Warehouse just for you its a mere* .....£0.35
403: 'The Trial of Peter Parker' continues brought to you by J.M. de Matteis and Mark Bagley ($1.50) ....£0.50
404-420 .....£0.75

**N130: AMAZING SPIDER-MAN KING SIZE ANNUALS:**
11 (1977) .....£2.00
15 (1981) Spider-man vs The PUnisher by Denny O'Neil, Frank Miller and Klaus Jansen ..... . .....£2.95
18 (1984) The Scorpion Takes a Bride, by Tom Defalco, Ron Frenz, Bob Layton and Jackson Guice ..... ..... ..... .£0 75
23,25,26 all contain several short stories and are square bound 64 pages.....£0.60

**N135: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN: Chaos in Calgary** (4 part mini) in part 4 Spidy comes up against The 'Frightful Four" 4...£0.20

**N160: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN: Friends and Enemies:** 4 part mini (1993) by Danny Fingeroth and Ron Lim. Spidy plus Dark hawk, Nova and Speedball 2,3,4 ..... .....£0.30

**N165: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN: Hit & Run:** 3 issue mini. No 3 Spidy & Ghost Rider with art by Jim Craig .....£0.30

**N180: AMAZING SPIDER-MAN DELUXE REPRINTS:** 101 The introduction of Morbius with the six armed Spidy 1992 reprint ($1.75) .....£0.30
129: First Punisher story $2.95 part of the Milestone reprint series.....£0.30

**N185: AMAZING SPIDER-MAN: Skating on Thin Ice:** Ice Hockey story with Electro (1993) 1 ..... ..... ...£0.30

**N186: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN '96:** Annuals are now called 'apostrophe/ year' ('96) Spidy 96 is the current 64 page annual and in this issue they've tried to cover all the bases with The Osbornes, Kraven, Capt Stacy & Gwen, The Black costume and the return of Aunt May. How do De Falco and Frenz achieve this feat (even with John Romita Sr on finished art) you'll have to purchase it to find out! ($2.95) .....£1.25

**N200:** From the Age of Apocalypse and the Alternate Universe destruction of all good X-Things we have **THE AMAZING X-MEN** ($1.95)
2 ..... ....£1.50
3 ..... ..... .....£1.20
4 ..... .....£0.50

**No 201: THE AMAZING X-MEN No 1** (2nd edition) $1.95 .... ..... ..... ...£1.25

**N220:** From the pages of Spider-Man comes: **ANNEX:** in a four part story **"CRUCIBLE OF POWER"** written by Jack C Harris with various artists ($1.75) 1,2,3,4 ..£0.35

**N225: ANNIE THE MOVIE** (goodness knows where they come from) .....£0.30

**N230: ARCHANGEL:** Special X-Men one shot in heavy duty black and white by Peter Milligan & Leonardo Manco ($2.50) .....£1.75

**N235: ASKANI'SON:** The future history of the X-Men continues with Apocalypse and the progeny of Scott & Jean 2000 years in the future: 4 issue mini ($2.95) issues 1,2,3,4 Warehouse special .....£0.95

**N240: THE ASTONISHING X-MEN** another of the Age of Apocalypse mini series 2,4 .....£1.50

**N260: THE AVENGERS:** Started in 1963 as a clone of the FF and in direct competition with the JLA from DC, The Avengers were born from the House of Ideas in its golden period. The group changed lineup more often than Xena does a back flip, Hercules punches out two guys at once or Stan Lee changes a toupee. The plot lines ranged from the superb to the sublime. In its heyday The Avengers was one well respected and sought after book. We pick up our supply with issue 201during the George Perez/David Micheline run in the early eighties of incredibly readable stories -
201-205,210-213,216,218, 220,232,233,238-241,245, 247-249 .....£0.60
250 double sized issue with both teams.....£0.90
269,278,279,286-299 ..£0.60
300 giant size 64pgs ...£0.90
301-311,314-359 .....£0.50
363 de luxe special with Silver cover ..... ...£0.75
365,368 ..... ....£0.50
369 Bloodties part 5 of 5 the final part of the X-Men/ Avengers Crossover, 48 page issue with Silver Cover £0.75
370-372,379-388 .....£0.50
If you are even remotely interested in a good read, then pick up on the Avengers, 'cos when they're gone, they're gone!



**Minimum written order £5.00 plus shipping fee. Minimum telephoned order £10.00 plus shipping fee**

**It didn't take Jim Lee long to go the the Image Comics route and start producing alternate covers to the new F.F. Pictured above are the two covers that grace Jim Lee's version of the Fantastic Four Issue Four dated February 1997. The covers were produced one for one so don't let yourself be gulled into parting with extra money for either of them.**

Our hero's adventures continue with subsequent numbers in the next computer code:

**N261: THE AVENGERS:** 391,393.395-397,399 ..£0.75
400 ..... .. .....£1 60
401,402 .....£0.95
402 is the issue that concludes the first phase of The Avengers existence leading the way to 'unfinished business' and the re-launch of The Avengers under the auspices of Rob Leifeld.

**N265: THE AVENGERS VOLUME 2:** current series by Rob and the crew
1 ($2.95) .....£1.65
2,3,4 ($1.95) ..... ..£1.25

**N270: THE AVENGERS: KING SIZED ANNUALS:** No 10 from 1981, from the gem encrusted pen of Chris Claremont, the midas inspired brushes of Michael Golden and the quink inkpot of Armando Gil comes this saga of The Avengers, The XMen, Spiderwoman, Iron Man and The Brotherhood of Evil Mutants. This is the issue that introduces Rogue. Price guiding anywhere between $20 and $40 (if you can find it) The Warehouse has copies for you at ...£5.95
No 12, 1983 Avengers vs Inhumans.....£1.25
N0 13 1984 vs The Hulk by artists Steve Ditko and John Byrne. An unusual combination.....£1.25
No 17: 1988 The end of the Evolutionary War?? .....£0.75
No 18: 1989: Atlantis Attacks (4 stories in 64 pages by various writers & artists)....£0.60
No 19: 1990: The Terminus Factor (Stage 5) another series of stories in this 64 pager .....£0.60
No 20: 1991: Subterranean Wars, 64 pages .....£0.60
No 21: (1992) Citizen Kang part 4, 64 pages .....£0.60
No 23: (1994) To Tame a Titan a self contained story part 1 by Roy Thomas & John Buscema part 2 by Al Milgrom ($2.95) .....£0.80

**N275: THE OFFICIAL MARVEL INDEX TO THE AVENGERS** Vol 2, 1994 ($1.95) 1,2 .....£0.75

**N290: AVENGERS:** Giant size double feature: same story as the regular numbering of the book plus an extra full length Giant Man story to justify the extra price ($2.50) 379. 380, 381 .....£0.60

**N295: THE LAST AVENGERS STORY:** 2 issue prestige project by Peter David the scenario is the future and the scene is set for the remaining Avengers and their offspring to enter their last battle .... with Ultron. ($5.95) 1,2 .....£2.95

**N310: AVENGERS:** Marvel Milestone Reprint Editions of early key books ($2.95)
1,4,16 .....£1.25

**N320: AVENGERS SOLO/ SPOTLIGHT:** A spin off title that spotlights the solo adventures of Avengers Team Members and other heroes. Hawkeye is the lead in issues 1 - 34 we've listed his co-star against each issue number: sometimes the stories are combined but mostly each issue is two separate stories:
1 Mocking Bird: 2 Captain Marvel: 3 Moonknight: 4 BlackKnight: 5 Scarlet Witch: 6 Falcon, 7 Blackwidow: 8 Dr Pym: 9 Hellcat: 10 Dr Druid: 11 Hercules: 12 The Abomination: 13 Wonderman: 14 Blackwidow/She Hulk: 15 The Wasp: 16 Moondragon: 17 SubMariner: 18 Moondragon: 19 Black Panther: 20 Moonie again: 21 Starfox· 22 The Swordsman: 23 The Vision: 24 Firebird: 25 Rick Jones: 26 Iron Man: 28 Wonderman: 29 Iron Man: 30 Hawkeye Booklength: 31,32,33.34 Hawkeye shares the books with US Agent: 35 Hawkeye disappears for an issue to be replaced by the Return of Gilgamesh (the Eternals in a story written by Danny Fingeroth & pencilled by Jim Valentino: 36 Hawkeye is back for the final time although he stays as an icon on the masthead for the next few issues. 36 is called 'The Fatal Finale": 37 Book length Tigra: 39 book length Black Knight with (wow) Greg Capullo on pencils: and the final issue 40 is "The Persistence of Vision" starring everyone's favourite android next to Data, and, what are we charging for all these wonderful reads - just 30p! a pop ladies & gents; yessss
issues 1-26,28-40.....£0.30

**N330: AVENGERS STRIKE FILE** (1994)
No 1 ($1.75) .....£0.40

**N331: THE AVENGERS IN THE TERMINATRIX OBJECTIVE:** 4 issue mini series 1 ($2.50) 2,4 ($1.25).....£0.40

**N332: THE AVENGERS; HOT SHOTS**: Poster Magazine ($2.95) .....£0.75

**N335: THE AVENGERS; TIMESLIDE**: Special issue ($4.95) .....£2.95

**N340: AVENGERS / ULTRA FORCE** One half of the progressive merging of the Marvel Universe with the Ultraverse (from Malibu) the other half of the story is in Ultraforce / Avengers. ($3.95) .....£1.95

**N350: AVENGERS UNPLUGGED:** one of the new 99¢ easy access price point comics launched by Marvel during 1995. Regular size 32 pages and just 99 cents.
1-6 .....£0.50

**N360: THE AVENGERS; WEST COAST:** The Avengers franchise was so popular in the late seventies and early eighties that Marvel spun off another group. Calling them Avengers West Coast, they were located in California and continued to save the world from a variety of super villains, alien entities and themselves. The West Coast incarnation lasted almost ten years, and again, at the Comics Warehouse pricing is an excellent read that you shouldn't miss out on:
16,18-20,23,24,26-45,47-49, 56-59,61,64,67,76-93 ..£0.30

**N370: THE WEST COAST AVENGERS: GIANT SIZED ANNUALS** 3 (1985) The Evolutionary War 64 pages story Steve Englehart, art Al Milgrom and Gerry Talaoc - with Giant Man and Black Panther.....£0.40
4 (1989) Atlantis Attacks (64 pages) . ..... £0 50
6 (1991) Subterranean Wars (64 pages) .....£0.40
7 (1992) Assault on Armour City (64 pages) .....£0.40
8 (1993) Starring War Machine (64 pages)
$2.95 ..... .....£0.75

**N380: BALDUR THE BRAVE** 4 issue mini 1985
1,3 .....£0.40

**N385: BEAUTY & THE BEAST:** Hank McCoy and The Dazzler (4 issue mini)
1,2,3 .....£0.40

**N390: BARBIE:**
33,40,61,62 .....£0.50

**N391: BARBIE FASHION:**
41 .....£0.50

**N400: BEAVIS & BUTTHEAD:** The iconoclastic snot drivelling, hormonally impaired sexually disfunctional comedy clowns from MTV ($1.95) 2... .....£1.25
7 - Warehouse special .£0.30
10,11,18,22,25,26,27,28£0.75

**N420: BISHOP:** 4 issue mini series starring Bishop of the X-Men in a story by Kevin Ostrander, pencils Carlos Pacheco inks Cam Smith ($2.95) 1,2,4.....£0.95

**N425: BIZARRE ADVENTURES:** The magazine changed to comic size we have issue 34 from 1983, its a special violent we hate Christmas issue.....£1.50

**N440: BLACK CAT:** Mini series starring Felicia Hardy (who is involved with Spiderman) 1994. $1.50
issues 3,4 .....£0.30

**N450: BLACK GOLIATH** (5 issue mini) - 1976
2,4,5 .....£0.40

**N460: BLACK KNIGHT:** 4 issue mini 1990 1-4 ..£0.50

**N465: BLACK KNIGHT; EXODUS:** Featuring the threat of the Eternal Apocalypse doublesized oneshot written by Ben Raab, pencils Jimmy Cheung, inks Andy Lanning $2.50 ....£1.25

**N490: BLACK WULF:** in 1990 Marvel had a go at a new hero, launched with a damp squib of publicity. Ralph Macchio, Glenn Herdling, Angel Medina and Bill Anderson put their all into this convoluted future tale of despots and rebellion, all to no avail. Without backing from Marvel it was destined to be cancelled. And lo that fate came to pass and Blackwulf has entered the Shadowland of a team leader with no book.
When Marvel crawl out of Chapter Eleven and look at their back catalogue, he'll probably get a fresh lease of life.
Right now you can pick up his adventures for just 30p each.
Blackwulf issues 1-10 ..£0.30

**N500: BLADE: THE VAMPIRE HUNTER:** Here's where we start getting into the Marvel Horror Maze: Blade fights Dracula and his evil ilk; This series from 1994 is one of the Midnight Sons Spin Off titles from writer Ian Edginton with Doug Wheatley on the blood dripping fang pencils 1 ($2.95).....£0.75
2-7 ($1.95).....£0.40

**N510: BLAZE:** Another horror fest of the Midnight Sons: Johnny Blaze has lost his Ghost Rider Visage he is almost human, his wife has been slain, his children vanished, now the demons are massing.
1 ($.2.95) 2,3, ($1.95)..£0.40

**N520: BLAZE: LEGACY OF BLOOD:** (4 issue mini 1993) More convoluted shotgun motorbiking horror from the Midnight Son.
1-4 ($1.75).....£0.40

**N526: BRUTE FORCE:** (4 issue mini 1990) written by Simon Forman, pencils Jose Delbo , inks Mike DeCarlo. A scientists enhances the intelligence of his lab animals, a kangaroo, a bear, a vulture, a dolphin and a lion, gives them exo skeletons and sends them out to battle villains and protect the environment. (I'm not surprised that it was only 4 issues, I can't get my head round why animals would bother to look after a species that kills them for sport or cooks them for food. Still that's what politicians do to the electorate and we put up with that! Enough of this digression) check out little ol' Brute Force 1-4£0.30

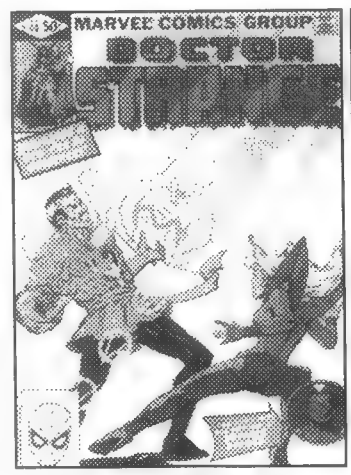
**N548: CABLE: BLOOD & METAL:** 2 part mini series 1992. Fabian Nicieza writer, John Romita Jr pencils, Dan Green inks. 48 pages ($2.50)
1 - special Warehouse price..... ..... .....£0.50
2 .....£0.90

**N550: CABLE:** in 1993 Cable, Leader of X-Force is given his own ongoing title, written by Fabian Nicieza and art by Art Thibert. Issue 1 is a $3.50 enhanced cover special double sized issue, but as usual at The Comics Warehouse we want you to try the book and enjoy the book, so we have Issue 1 of Cable regular series available for purchase not for $3.50 or anything like it, its yours. for just.....£0.50
3-6,8,11-13, ($2.00).....£0.95
17,18 ($1.50) .....£0.60
21-24 ($1.95).....£0.95
25 Special 48 page anniversary issue with gate fold prism enhanced cover ($3.95) .....£1.50
26-30 ($1.95).....£1.25
(in 30 Cable meets Nate Gray The X-Man from the Age of Apocalypse (now in his own book) and in 31 they battle)
31-40 ($1.95).....£1.30

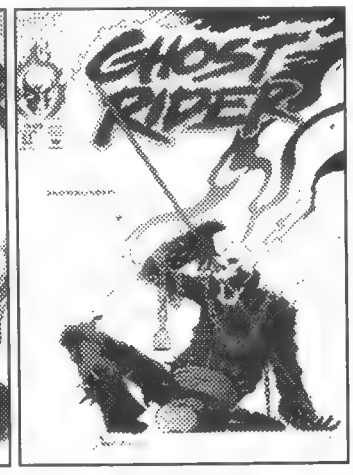
**N560: CAGE:** As in Luke Cage: Hero for Hire: this title was accorded the full Marvel panoply of publicity when it was launched in 1992 with Marc McLaurin writing and Dwayne Turner on pencils. The timing wasn't right and the book only lasted some 20 issues; we have for you:
1-8,. 10-19.....£0.30

**N562:** as a complete change of pace we have a few copies left of: **CAMP CANDY:** A cartoon series from 1990 in which the late fat actor John Candy is the bumbling chief counsellor at a summer camp. No 2 .....£0.20

**N570: CAPTAIN AMERICA:** This hero, Steve Rogers, has been through the mill. His adventures have been told by both experts and hacks. A mainstay of the Marvel Universe that Marvel have rarely been able to get to grips with. Most Captain




**From August 1981 this issue is one of the Dr Strange stories written by Roger Stern and illustrated by the dynamic pairing of Marshall Rogers and Terry Austin.**

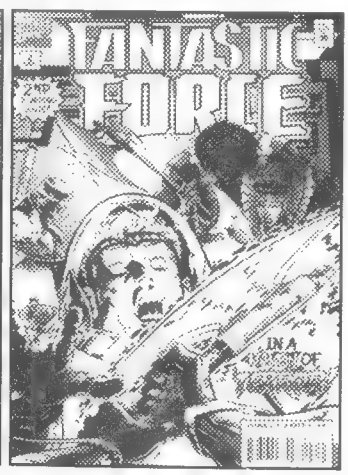



**The Ghost Rider, in the human form of Danny Ketch, has proved to be one of Marvel's most enduring modern creations.**

America issues are little better than a toilet read, followed by a quick flush and wipe the bowl. But sometimes, especially when handled by writers and artists who respect the character, Steve Rogers rises well above the mundane and surprises us with how good he can be. We have quite a lot of issues of Cap's adventures at prices that will make your experimental reading an adventure of discovery. Why not give Steve a look in today?
251,253 Roger Stern/John Byrne .....£0.75
282,311-325.....£0.50
335 Super patriot is now Cap in a series written by Mark Gruenwald .....£0.50
338-340,342-348 .....£0.30
350 Giant sized issue Cap vs Cap plus the Red Skull£0.50
351-371 .....£0.30
Issues 357 starts the 6 part "Bloodstone Hunt: by Mark Gruenwald and Keiron Dwyer.
377,379,382,384-399 ..£0.30
issues 387 starts "The Superia Strategem" 6 parter by Mark Gruenwald and Rik Levins.
400 giant sized anniversary issue .....£1.25
401-407,409-415,417, 418 .....£0.30
"Man and Wolf" the Search for John Jameson begins in 402 and continues through 6 issues.
420,423-427,429,431-436, 438,442,443 .....£0.40
444 starts the incredible revival by Mark Waid and Ron Garney .....£1.95
and the revival continues in: 445 to 454 inclusive.....£1.25
with issues 454 we say our sad farewell to Steve Rogers as chronicled by Mark Waid and Ron Garney and make way for 'unfinished business' and the 90's version of Cap by Rob Liefeld.
**N575: CAPTAIN AMERICA:** by Rob Liefeld and Jeph Loeb. I guess its time to make up your own mind as to whether Marvel made the right decision or not, in passing Cap & The Avengers over to Rob's studio. Whatever... here it is, check it out
1 ($2.95) .....£1.65
2 ($1.95) .....£1.25
**N571: CAPTAIN AMERICA COLLECTORS PREVIEW:** Back to March 1995 with a 48 page magazine (comic sized) that editorialises on about Steve and his history and his creators, plus a Simon & Kirby Cap story originally presented in All Winners Comics 1 (1941) ($1.95) .....£0 95
**N580: CAPTAIN AMERICA KING SIZED ANNUAL:** 9 (1990) 64 pages "The Terminus Factor: stories by Roy Thomas and Jim Valentino, Randall Frenz and Mark Bagley etc.....£0.75
10 (1991) 64 pages 'The Von Strucker Gambit' with Fury and Hydra. Back up Nomad Story .....£0.75
11 (1992) 64 pages 'Citizen Kang part 1' All the usual talent contributes toward this year's epic tale. .....£0.75
12 (1993) 64 pages 'Behold the Battling Bantam' what can you say about a title like that except 'ouch'. All issues polybagged with trading card ($2.95) .....£0.75
**N581: CAPTAIN AMERICA 'THE DRUG WARS'** 48 page oneshot guest starring New Warriors two stories one by Peter David and Sal Velluto (originally published in 1990) the other by George Cargonne and Coleen Doran (1994) $2.00 .....£0.95
**N582: CAPTAIN AMERICA GOES TO WAR AGAINST ...DRUGS** from 1990 in co-operation with the FBI this is the Peter David and Sal Velluto drug story as originally published in an FBI/Marvel 20 pages promo .....£0.30
**N584: CAPTAIN AMERICA 'THE MEDUSA EFFECT'** (1994) 64 page oneshot written by Roy Thomas, with Rich Buckler and MC Wyman pencils. Cap & Bucky take on Nazi saboteurs ($2.95) £1.25
**N596: CAPTAIN AMERICA THE LEGEND**: 1996 48 page tribute issue ($3.95).....£1.50
**N600: CAPTAIN AMERICA THE MOVIE SPECIAL** (1992) The movie came, went and ended up on video very quickly. Here is the comics adaptation battling Nazis and The Red Skull. Script Stan Lee, pencils Bob Hall, inks Tom Morgan ($3 50) .....£0.60
**N605: CAPTAIN JUSTICE:** (1988) 2 part mini. A retro look at a 1950's superhero from a 1980's TV series by J M de Matteis and Steve Leialoha 1,2.....£0.30
**N620: CAPTAIN MARVEL;** Giant sized special 1989. Not Marvel or his son but Monica Rambeau ex-Avenger in a solo story .....£0.40
**N630: CAPTAIN MARVEL VOL 2 1994**. More of the adventures of Monica Rambeau the black female Captain Marvel and Avengers. The 48 page first issue indicated an ongoing series but I don't think that it got past issue 1. No 1..£0.50
**N640: CAPTAIN MARVEL;** This version from 1995 is the original MAR-VELL's son. written by Fabian Nicieza with art by Ed Benes, Marvel had high hopes. Those hopes were dashed when the book was cancelled after half a dozen issues. By the way, the character has a large message patch on the right buttock of his tights. The message read "Kiss me - I'm a KREE". 1 ($2.95) .....£1.25
2-6 ($1.95).....£0.75
**N644: CAPTAIN PLANET AND THE PLANETEERS:** You've seen the cartoon, now experience the comic, a short lived title from 1991.
2,3,4,5 .....£0.20
**N648: CARNAGE; ITS A WONDERFUL LIFE**: 1996 oneshot written by David Quinn and drawn by the totally underrated, talented Kyle Hotz. Carnage is a blood thirsty symbiote from many Spiderman stories is incarcerated with his host in an asylum.
The book is actually flagged 'for Mature Readers' which is unusual for Marvel. Visually its a feast of blood, guts, demons and gore reminiscent of a cross between 2000AD and 50's Horror Comics ($1.95) .....£1.35
**N650: CARNAGE; MIND BOMB.** 1996, More gruesome gore this time from Warren Ellis & Kyle Hotz. $2.95 .....£1.95
**N655: CENTURY; DISTANT SONS:** The saga of Century, an artificial long lived human shaped construct and the intergalactic machaevellian plots that he becomes involved in by Dan Abnett and Andy Lanning. 48 page oneshot (1996) $2.95 ..£0.60
**N660: CLANDESTINE:** Alan Davis creation of a super-powered long lived family of scrappy individuals under threat from an unknown source. A great little book, cancelled eventually because of creative differences and the fact that Marvel couldn't keep it going after Alan left.
1 .....£2.95
2 .....£2.50
3,4 .....£1.50
5-8 .....£1.20
9 .....£2.00
10 .....£0.75
**N670: CLOAK & DAGGER:** An oddly matched Mutant pairing of Cloak who can command a Darkness and his companion the white garbed Dagger who is a creature of Light.
1983. Four issues mini series written by Bill Mantlo, Rick Leonardi pencils, Terry Austin inks. 1-4.....£0.30
**N671: CLOAK & DAGGER VOL 2** (1985) 2-11.....£0.30
**N672: CLOAK & DAGGER:** When this mutant pair came out again for their third series Marvel (I think not quite knowing how to handle the appeal & powers of these two mutants) did them a disservice by subtitling the series "The Mutant Misadventures of Cloak & Dagger"
1-18 .....£0.30
19 giant sized last issue£0.40
**N690: COMET MAN:** 6 issues series from 1987 writers Bill Mumy and Miguel Ferrer, art by Kelly Jones & Gerry Talaoc. 1,2,4,6 ...£0.30
**N700: CONAN**: Short lived 1995 series of $2.95 Colour Comics. Script Larry Hama, pencils Barry Crain, inks Jimmy Palmiotti. The Hyborian Warrior swashbuckles with bloody sword.
($2.95) 1-8,10,11, what shall we do these recent books for?? I know.....£0.75
**N710: CONAN CLASSICS:** 1994 reprints of the legendary Roy Thomas Barry (before he added the Windsor) Smith Conan stories from the 1960's and 70's. Check them out, see how Barry's superb early work was influenced by Jack Kirby and how his own unique style evolved.
1-3 .....£0.75
5-7 try out issues @ ....£0.30
8-11.....£0.75
**N720: CONAN THE ADVENTURER:** 1994 series with exceptionally detailed Smithesque type art from Rafael Kayanan ($1.50)
3-5,7-13.....£0.30
**N730: CONAN THE BARBARIAN:** The looong loonnng running Conan Colour comic which lasted almost 300 issues before finally running out of steam. Very limited quantities so get in quick as every time we have them, they sell out.
45-58 .....£1.50
60-64,66,69 .....£1.25
128,129 .....£0.75
180-185,193,201,205,207, 210,211,216,217,219,228, 230-236 .....£0.40
**N731: CONAN ANNUAL:** 8,9,11,12.....£0.40
**N740: CONAN THE KING:** Stories of Conan in later life, still as blood thirsty as ever
47,48 .....£0.30
**N745: CONAN vs RUNE**: A Marvel Special one shot; story and art by Barry Windsor Smith. Barry rose to fame with his interpretation of Conan, and Barry created Rune the Cosmic Vampire for Malibu ($2.95) .....£1.50
**N750: CONEHEADS**: 4 part series of the Crazy Dan Ackroyd Movie 1994
1-4 .....£0.20
**N760: COPS; THE JOB:** Raw Hill Street Blues ensemble crime story - 1992.
($1.25) 1-3.....£0.30
**N779: COSMIC POWERS:** 6 issue series; each issue devoted to an individual Cosmic hero or villain. ($2.50) 1994
1 Thanos, 2 Terrax, 3 Jack of Hearts, 4 Legacy, 5 Morg, 6 Tyrant .....£1.25
**N780: COSMIC POWERS UNLIMITED:** Glossy $3.95 1996 series. each issue has three Cosmic stories with the Silver Surfer in the lead.
3,5 .....£0.60
**N810: CUTTING EDGE:** One shot 1995 starring the Hulk. Art by Angel Medina/ Paul Pelletier, inks Steve Moncuse. - $2.95.....£2.50
**N818: DAILY BUGLE: SLICE OF LIFE** (1996) Mini series about J Jonah Jameson's newspaper ($2.50) 1 .....£1.25
**N822: DAMAGE CONTROL: Vol 1:** When the Heroes get into trouble who do you call? Damage Control 1-4 ....£0.30
**N823: DAMAGE CONTROL Vol 2:** 1-4.....£0.30
**N824: DAMAGE CONTROL Vol 3:** 1-4.....£0.20
**N840: DAREDEVIL:** The Blind Matt Murdock as Daredevil one of Marvel's longest running heroes.
185,186,188 Frank Miller / Klaus Jansen (1982) ..£1.25
233 Miller/ Mazzucchelli .....£0.70
236 Ann Nocenti / Barry Windsor Smith .....£0.60
252,262,263 all are Ann Nocenti / John Romita Jr / Al Williamson .....£0.50
264 A 1989 story by Ann Nocenti with art by Steve Ditko .....£0.30
then its back to Ann on writing with John Jr and Al on art. 265-269,271,274-278, 280,281 .....£0.40
292-298 D C Chichester / Lee Weeks.....£0.40
300 Double sized anniversary issue by D G Chichester / Lee Weeks and Al Williamson .....£0.50
301-305 Warehouse Special (still with D.G. Chichester writing).....£0.25
306-310 .....£0.40
311-313 Here you are some more bargain basement DD's.....£0.30
314,315,316 .....£0.40
325 Doublesized 'Fall from Grace' finale by D G Chichester & Scott McDaniel ($2.50) .....£0.75

Amazing Spider-Man 101 - A monster called Morbius and a six armed Spidy - the classic tale reprinted in its entirety in 1992 is offered at? - check the price!

Both Mark Gruenwald and John Byrne had long creative runs on Captain America. The title offers a lot of good reading at low cost.

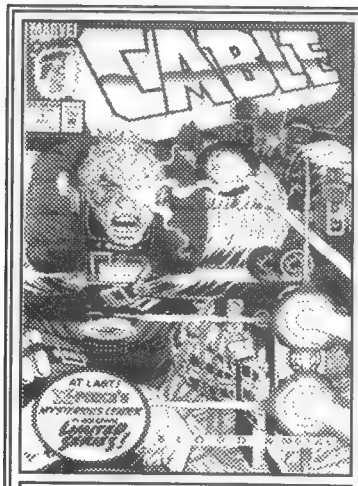



Remember the Black Costume, that turned out to be the symbiote Venom? Here we offer you early appearances in Amazing Spider-Man from 1984.

Fantastic Force was a superteam led by a grown up Franklin Richards (son of Reed & Sue, of the Fantastic Four) Planned as a runner - the story was concluded in issue 18.



**All orders from outside the U.K. must be paid for in £ sterling. Overseas credit cards welcome.**




In October 1992 the ubiquitous Cable (created by Rob the Lad and Louise the Lady) appeared in a two part mini series "Blood and Metal" written by Fabian Nicieza pencilled by John Romita Jr and inked by Dan Green, and we have it for you.

Whilce Portacio has excelled himself with the superb art that graces the new Iron Man: and Scott Lobdell and Jim Lee have made a decent stab at the re-writing of Shell-Head too.

Then continuing the collaboration of Chichester and McDaniel we have DD in his new costume in the Tree of knowledge storyline in $1.50 issues.
329 with Iron Fist, 330 with Gambit, 331 with the old DD and 332 Finale.....£0.60
333 in October 1994 sees the start of a new Team of Greg Wright writers & Tom Grindberg pencils, soon to be followed by other creators:
333-338 .....£0.35
340,341 .....£0.40
DD is then rebranded as part of the Marvel Edge series with upgraded paper and a $1.95 price tag.
346-349 .....£0.50
350 double sized issue $3.50 .....£1.25
351-353 $1.95 .....£0.95
354-360 $1.50 .....£0.80

**N850: DAREDEVIL ANNUAL**
6 (1990) 64 pages 4 stories.....£0.50
8 (1992) 64 pages 4 stories.....£0.40

**N860: DAREDEVIL THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR:** 5 issue mini series by Frank Miller, John Romita Jr and Al Williamson ($2.95)
4,5 .....£0.60

**N865: DAREDEVIL / SHI :** The Marvel /Crusade Crossover pitting the blind DD with Billy Tucci's female Ninja. I won't attempt to list the creators as everybody had a hand in it and page 3 reads like a movie end titles sequence ($2.95) .....£1.60

**N880: DARKHAWK:** (1991) From Tom de Falco and Mike Manley comes this young guy who finds an amulet whilst fighting for his life, helping his dad, a policeman. Once rubbed the amulet transforms him into an armoured type of avenger to fight the bad guys. As the series unfolds, so do the secrets of the Amulet, as well as a galaxy of guest stars.
1-7,9-19,21-45,47-49...£0.25

**N890: DARKHAWK ANNUALS:**
1 (1992) 64 pages 4 stories with Iron Man.....£0.30
2 (1993) 64 pages 4 stories with Trading Card .....£0.30
3 (1994) .....£0.60

**N900: DARKMAN Vol 2:** Six issue series from the Sam Rami Movie. A scientist has his face burned off by the villains. He creates synthetic mouldable flesh that last an hour, and seeks retribution. A gory, horror, revenge story ($3.95) 1,2,3,5,6 .....£0.95

**N901: DARKHOLD:** Part of the Rise of the Midnight Sons Horror mythology with Ghost Rider, Night Stalker and Morbius, Mordred, Scarlet Witch, Sabre Tooth and The Punisher, among others. The Darkhold is a book of arcane evil magics and people get trashed in this fest of the occult with superheroes.
1-7 Warehouse special intro offer .....£0.25
8-13 .....£0.50

**N920: THE DEADLY FOES OF SPIDER-MAN** 4 part mini (1991) 1,2 .....£0.40

**N926: DEAD POOL:** Current incarnation of the Merc with the Mouth. Is he or isn't he a mutant? Issue 1 ($2.95) Jan 97 .....£1.75

**N950: DEATHLOK:** (1991 series). Luther Manning, dead human, part cyborg. His dead flesh rots away as he tries to come to terms with himself whilst fighting the bad guys in a weird future. He does not stay in that future though he ends up doing the occasional time bounce as well.
1-3 .....£0.50
4-18 .....£0.25
19 .....£0.50
20-24,26 .....£0.30
32,33 .....£0.40

**N960: DEATHLOK ANNUALS:** 1 (1992) 64 pages cover Joe Quesada and Jimmy Palmiotti, interior writer Gregory Wright, Jackson Guice breakdowns and Jimmy Palmiotti finishes ($2.50)
Warehouse special.....£0.25

**N965: DEATHLOK SPECIAL:** 4 issue series 1991: 48 pages per issue. Dwayne McDuffie and Greg Wright writers, pencils Jackson Guice, inks Scott Williamson: 1-4.. .....£0.50

**N1005: THE DESTROYER:** from the Pulp series of crime novels these are stories of Remo *unarmed and dangerous) and his combat master, the diminutive Chiun.
Oneshot .....£0.25

**N1010: THE DESTROYER Vol 3:** (1991) Remo and Chiun 4 issues series.
1,2,3 .....£0.30

**N1060: Disney's THE THREE MUSKETEERS.** 2 part series. Bobbi Weiss writer, Dan Spiegle art ($1.50) 1,2 .....£0.40

**N1065: DOC SAMPSON:** The green skinned friend of The Hulk. Part of the short lived Marvel Edge experiment, Dan Slott writer, Ken Lashley pencils, Tom Wegrzyn and Art Nichols on inks. 4 issue mini (1996) $1.95 1,2,3,4 .....£0.50

**N1066: DINO-RIDERS:** Story of a galactic war written by the late George Carragone with art by Kelly Jones and Danny Bulanadi (1989)
1,2,3 .....£0.30

**N1070: DOCTOR STRANGE. MASTER OF THE MYSTIC ARTS:** 47 (1981) Roger Stern writer, Gene Colan pencils, Dan Green inks .....£0.60
48,49,50,53 (1981) Roger Stern, Marshall Rogers, Terry Austin .....£0.60

**N1090: DR STRANGE: SORCERER SUPREME:** This series started in 1989 and was only recently finished after Warren Ellis had a go at re-vamping the Doctor. This series is a cross between magic and horror with many a damsel in distress (as well as undress)
2,4,6 .....£0.60
9,10,13,14,16-18 .....£0.50
19-22,26,29 .....£0.40
33-40,45-51,64-69,72,73, 79,82-84 .....£0.35

**N1100: DR STRANGE SORCERER SUPREME ANNUAL:** 3 (1995) 64 pages polybagged with Trading Card $2.95.....£0.60

**N1120: DR STRANGE vs DRACULA:** 1994 one shot representing the classic confrontation between the Magic Mage and the undead who must avoid wooden stakes at all costs. Marv Wolfman writer, with Gene Colan and Tom Palmer artists. Includes a 5 page extra story by Doug Moench and Russ Heath. .....£0.50

**N1130: DOOM 2099AD:** The 2099 series was a good concept; (Take the Marvel Hero and villain concepts plus some actual characters, project them 100 years into the future, and see how the chips fall.) The various stories and concepts were in the main quite enjoyable, especially when Doom took over the world.
The Doom 2099 concept was axed, along with Joey Calvieri in one of Marvel's blood letting of staff. What is left for you the reader, is a good cheap read of some interesting stories and a different take on the Marvel Universe.
1-13,15,18-25,36-42....£0.30

**N1179: ECTO KID UNLEASHED:** Horror creation by Clive Barker, Dan Abnett and Andy Lanning story Hector Gomez pencils (1994) $2.95 1 .....£0.35

**N1185: ELEKTRA:** New current 1996 series.. Marvel won't let anybody who can sell a few comics stay dead. Frank Miller produced the definitive Elektra story in Daredevil. Marvel have consistently tried to bring her back. This is worth getting for the convoluted explanation of why she is now alive. $1.95
1,2,3 .....£1.25

**N1188: ELEKTRA MEGAZINE.** 2 part series: 96 pages squarebound re-printing the Frank Miller and Klaus Jansen Elektra saga from Daredevil as a prelude to the current Elektra series ($3.95) 1,2 .....£2.50

**N1190: ELEKTRA : ROOT OF EVIL:** Four part de luxe mini series from 1995: D G Chichester writer, Scott McDaniel pencils. Hector Collazo inks $2.95
1,2,3,4 .....£1.50

**N1210: ELFQUEST:** In the mid 80's Wendy and Richard Pini's mammoth undertaking about Cutter and the Elves and their quest for a new land was taken up and published for around three years by Marvel. Here at Warehouse style reading prices we present the ELFQUEST for you;
3,4 .....£0.40
8-12 .....£0.20
16-18,20,21,28 .....£0.30

**N1231: THE ETERNALS: THE HEROD FACTOR:** Giant sized 64 page spectacular from 1991. An Alien demon creature kills students at a prom dance; The Eternals (created by Jack Kirby) become involved and that's just the start of this epic: writers Roy & Dann Thomas. Pencils by Mark Texeira, inks from diverse hands including Bob McLeod, Chris Ivy, Mark McKenna, Ian Akin and Sam de la Rosa. Stylistically the book has a very Neal Adams neo-realistic feel. Well worth a look. ($2.50) .....£0.30

**N1240: EXCALIBUR:** This team superhero book started in 1988 as a vehicle for Captain Britain along with assorted mutants like Kitty Pryde and Nightcrawler. From an initial lighthearted, adventurous start, the book gradually progressed through different line ups until it became a fully fledged X-Men family book.
Early issues by Chris Claremont, Alan Davis and Paul Neary are
2,3,12,13,15,16,17 .....£0.75
then Chris continued the writing with other teams of artists in 18,19,20,21.....£0.40
Other creatives then took on the Excalibur team and moved Captain Britain and the gang in different directions
28,30,31 .....£0.40
32 sees the start of the three part 'Girls School from Hell' by Chris Claremont back in the driving seat along with Ron Wagner artist (by this time there is a female Captain Britain as well)
32,33,34 .....£0.60
35,39 .....£0.40
45,46,48,63,64 Alan Davis is back as writer/ penciller with Mark farmer on inks....£0.50
Scot Lobdell is at the helm with 68 & 70.....£0.40
75 giant sized issue with Prismatic Cover ($3.50)£1.75
Now we enter the period when Warren Ellis took the team into his own fertile yet twisted writers psyche and put the group through the wringer aided and abetted by some excellent artists like Ken Lashley, Larry Stroman, Casey Jones, Carlos Pacheco ($1.95 deluxe)
84,85,86 .....£0.95
87,88 Warehouse special @.....£0.50
89 .....£0.95
90 doublesized issue @ ($2.95) .....£1.50
91,92,93,94,95,96,97, 98,99 .....£0.95
100 Special doublesized issue ($2.95).....£1.50
101,102 with Overpower card bound in, 103.....£0.95
104 starts fresh writer and art team of John Arcudi, James Felder, Brian Hitch and others .....£0.95

**N1241: EXCALIBUR ANNUAL** 1 (1993) 64 pages polywrapped with Trading Card ($2.95) .....£0.75

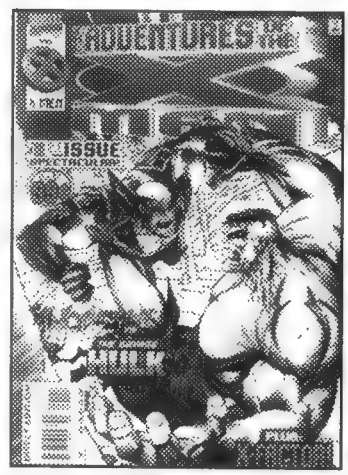
**N1243: EXCALIBUR SPECIAL** (1991) **"The Possession"** by Michael Higgins writer, Tom Morgan artist ($2.95).....£0.75

**N1270: FACTOR-X** more titles from the Age of Apocalypse ($1.95)
2,4 .....£1.25
3 as a Warehouse special .....£0.50

**N1271: FACTOR-X** 2nd edition of Number one.....£1.50

**N1280: THE FALCON:** Captain America's one time companion the red winged high flying Falcon is here in a 4 issue mini series from 1983. Written by Jim Owsley with Paul Smith on pencils
1-4 .....£0.35

**N1300: FANTASTIC FORCE** (1994) envisioned by Marvel as a complementary possibly replacement Superteam to The Fantastic Four, with Reed Richards and Sue Storm's grown up offspring Franklin as the leader of the pack.
Set in a future without the Fantastic Four and published



Marvel have recently started a line of 99 cent books to put value back on the racks. Here we have The Adventures of the X-Men starring Wolvie and The Hulk.

With The Avengers so popular, it wasn't long before the spin-off Avengers West Coast came about. Although many creators had a hand in the books, again its the John Byrne run that set the style.

before the onslaught storyline the title lasted almost two years before succumbing to the ultimate nemesis of all superheroes - declining sales and the accountants red pencil.
1 foil wrap around cover $2.50 .....£0.60
2 ($1.75) at a give it a spin because you may be agreeably surprised price of .£0.25
3-6 .....£0.40
8,9,11-18.. .....£0.35
18 was the final issue and they closed it on a neat note with the return of a bearded and gaunt Reed Richards.

**N1310: FANTASTIC FOUR:** This used to be 'the world's greatest comic magazine' according to Marvel.
It used to be.
Like Thor, Iron Man, Captain America and other elderly icons, the FF is being revamped for the 90's, by the Image studios. Four books have now been relaunched as new number ones.
Whether that's a good starting point or stopping point, only you the readers know. Marvel will find out when the sell through figures come back, early indications are that Jim Lee (with FF and Iron Man) is successful and Rob Liefeld (Avengers and Captain America) has spectacularly missed the target. In the meantime, take up your opportunity to get into the original FF and the other Marvel icons. At Comics Warehouse prices you can't go wrong. Issues available starting in 1978 are:
201 .....£1.50
225,226,227,228,229, 230, 231, all with Bill Sienkiewicz on art with mostly Doug Moench writing .....£0.95
232 July 1981, starts the incredible John Byrne run that took the FF back to their roots as the World's great comics magazine.
232-235 .....£0.75
236 20th anniversary triple sized issue, 68 pages, John Byrne lead story, back up by Lee, Kirby and guest inkers.....£1.20
237-241,243,244 .....£0.70
263,270,271,272 .....£0.60
John Byrne stopped doing the book around this time. We next pick up the run of FF's in 1987 with Roger Stern, Roy Thomas, Steve Englehart and others on writing chores with mostly John Buscema on art; followed by Keith Pollard and others.
302,303,307,308,310,311, 312,313,314,315,316,317, 318 ..... .. . ....£0.50
321-336 .....£0.40
then Walt Simonson who had been doing the writing for some time, took over writing AND art with 337:
337,338,339,340 .....£0.60
342 fill in by Danny Fingeroth of the Human Torch and X-Factor's Rusty Collins..£0.40
343 Simonson writing and ART ... .. .....£0.60
348 Simonson writer, Art Adams pencils .....£0.75
354 Simonson .....£0.60
355 Fingeroth/Milgrom £0.40
Tom de Falco and Paul Ryan then collaborated as plotters, writers & artist on a run
359,361,362,363,364,365, 372,373,379,384,391,392, 393,394,395,396 .....£0.40
401,402,404,405,406, 408,409,410,414 .....£0.75
415 Tom de Falco and Carlos Pacheco ..... .....£0.75
416 Final double sized issue by de Falco and Carlos Pacheco; Its Onslaught Phase 2 and brings to a close this Fantastic Four reality paving the way for the new Jim Lee FF.
($2.50).....£1.20

**N1340: FANTASTIC FOUR DE LUXE**: During the latter stages of the regular run of the FF there were several issues that came out with special enhanced covers. We've split them out and given them this special computer code they are:
375 Prism cover "The Rise of Doom" by de Falco and Ryan ($2.95) ..... .....£1.50
387: Die Cut Cover of a terrified Sue Storm. "Nobody Gets Out Alive" by de Falco & Ryan ($2.95) .....£1.25
394: Polybagged issue contains a 16 page Marvel Action Hour promo preview plus a full page size acetate print from the animated series ($2.95) .. .....£1.25
398: Silver Card Cover "A Dark Shadow from the Past' by Tom de Falco and Paul Ryan ($2.50).....£1.00
399 Silver Card Cover: Sue is teleported into the Negative Zone - can Reed save her? ($2.50) .....£1.00
400: Silver Cover: 64 pages anniversary issue: the culmination of an ultimate storyline "Even a Watcher Can Die" by Tom de Falco and Paul Ryan ($3.95) .....£1.95

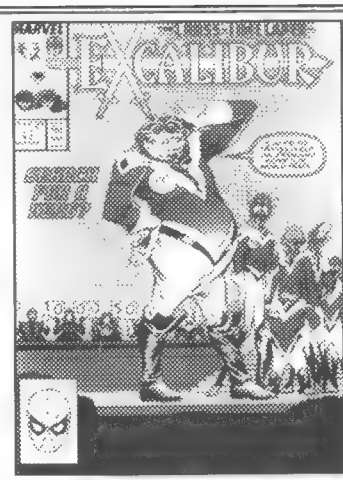
**N1315: FANTASTIC FOUR Volume 2** 1996 by Jim Lee Brandon Choi and Scott Williams 1 ($2.95).....£1.80
2,3,4 ($1.95) .....£1.35

**N1320: FANTASTIC FOUR ANNUALS:** 17 (1983) written and drawn by John Byrne. Remember back in early FF issues where the Super Skrulls were turned into Cows. Well what if the townsfolk started drinking the milk... .....£0.75
18 (1984) The Wedding of Black Bolt and Medusa of the Inhumans: Plot John Byrne, script Mark Gruenwald, pencils Mark Bright, inks Mike Gustovich .....£0 50
19 (1988) story and art John Byrne: The War to end all Skrulls guest starring the Avengers .....£1.20
25 (1992) Citizen Kang: 4 stories in a 64 page annual..... ..£0.40
26 (1993) 64 pages .....£0.75
27 (1994) 64 pages .....£0.75

**N1330: FANTASTIC FOUR: ATLANTIS RISING**: Special 48 page 1995 one shot with wraparound acetate covers: ($3.95) .....£1.50

**N1345: FANTASTIC FOUR; THE LEGEND:** Special tribute issue reviewing the FF's 33 year's history ($3.95) .....£1.95

**N1350: FANTASTIC FOUR; MARVEL MILESTONE REPRINTS:** Reprint of the classic 1961 FF #1 including advertisements ($2.95)£0.60
Reprint of FF No 5 (1962) including advertisements. the very first appearance of Dr Doom ($2.95) .....£0.60




An intergalactic beauty parade of Alien Super-hero wannabes, is this Captain Britain and Excalibur. No and Yes. Its the Cross Time Caper by Chris Claremont and Alan Davis.

When Wendy Pini and her hubby Richard had the idea of battling elves on a migratory quest for new lands, they tapped into the Tolkien mythos and produced a title so successful that Marvel decided to publish it.

**N1355: FANTASTIC FOUR 2099**: want to find out how 2099 editor Joey Cavalieri managed to get the FF into the 2099 universe? check out these issues:
1 with chromium wraparound cover; writer Karl Kesel, Rick Leonardi pencils & Al Williamson inks ($3.95)£1.25
3,4,5,6 ($1.95) .....£0.60
7,8 ($1.95) .....£1.00

**N1360: FANTASTIC FOUR UNLIMITED**: The Unlimited Series was another of Marvel's attempts to get you to give them your money rather than some other publisher. The reasoning goes like this: If we have one successful title, let's try two, then three, then four. Right ring the changes, throw in different formats and all of a sudden there are a dozen X-Books, seven or eight FF's and a zillion Spider-Clones. Marvel used to be the house of ideas, nowadays they appear to be strip mining their existing properties instead of being truly creative. OK, off the soapbox, let's hope that being in Chapter Eleven bankruptcy brings someone to their senses, and Marvel gets that good creative edge back. Talking about getting back, let's get back to FF Unlimited.
Its a 64 page quarterly published $3.95 Book that kicked off in 1993. Printed on slick paper they are really heavy sons o' bitches to lug around. *So, sweethearts, for the duration of this advert and this ad alone, they are yours for just 60p each. ! Go for it....*
N1360: FF Unlimited: 1,3,4,5,7,8,9,10,12 .....£0.60

**N1370: FANTASTIC FOUR; UNPLUGGED:** The Unplugged series is Marvel's attempt to bring back value by offering a 99¢ line of books. Regular size, regular number of pages, just 99¢ a piece: 2-6 from the Warehouse .....£0.40

**N1382: FEAR;** Adventure Into... Morbius the living Vampire stars in issue 27 written by Doug Moench with Frank Robbins on art and D. Fraser inks from 1975 just.....£0.20

**N1390: FISH POLICE**: The Hot Hot Book of its day. Marvel picked up Fish Police by Steve Moncuse and started publishing these eclectic adventures in 1992.
1,2,3,4,6 ..... .....£0.40

**N1400: FLASH GORDON:** A Marvel Select title: written by Mark Shultz art by Al Williamson ($2.95)
1,2 .....£1.20

**N1410: FOOL KILLER**: First seen in The Man Thing series: The Fool Killer goes around killing the perps that he regards as criminals: ultimately he is a psycho crazy, but finding out courtesy of ace writer Steve Gerber is half the fun. The series, from 1990 lasted ten issues and we have
1-10 .....£0.30

**N2120: JACK OF HEARTS** (4 issue series)
1,2,4 .....£0.20

**N2130: JAMES BOND JR:** Based on the cartoon series the escapades of little Jimmy, nephew of James, and his pals at school
001-007 .....£0.12

**N2170: JUSTICE; FOUR BALANCE**
1-3 ..... .....£0.20

**N2190: KA-ZAR THE SAVAGE**: Being re launched by Marvel with the talents of this series which ran from 1981-1984 is a good introduction to a character that has always had potential
2,4-6,8,12 Brent "Astro City" Anderson art .. .. .... £0 30
29,34 .....£0.20

**N2195: KING ARTHUR AND THE KNIGHTS OF JUSTICE** (3 issue series) based on the short lived cartoon series
1-3 .....£0.20

**N2199: KITTY PRYDE AND WOLVERINE** (6 issue series). The classic mini series written by Chris Claremont and drawn by Al Milgrom at bargain prices
2-3 ..... ..... ....£1.25
4.5 .....£0 95

**N2220: KNIGHTS OF PENDRAGON** (1 st series) A Marvel UK title utilising the talents of Dan Abnett and Gery Erskine. Covers provided by the likes of Alan Davis, Simon Bisley and John Bolton amongst others. It stars Captain Britain of Excalibur fame.
1-3,6,8,13,14 .. .. .....£0.25

**N2230: KNIGHTS OF PENDRAGON** (2nd series). This time the high tech Arthurian Knights fight evil with guest stars Iron Man and Spider-Man 1-10,13 .....£0.25

**N2270: THE LAST TEMPTATION OF ALICE COOPER:** The rock'n roll stage and album performer (remember 'In the Out Door' with lyrics by Bernie Taupin. Nurse Rosetta will never be forgotten and 'the quiet room' is still a hauntingly melodic paean to schizoid paranoia) (enough already). Alice Cooper stars in a story written by Neil (Sandman) Gaiman and beautifully rendered by Michael Zulli. A $4.95 Marvel Book
1,2 .. .....£1.25
3 .....£0.50

**N2278: LABYRINTH** (3 issue series). The adaptation of the Jim Henson film starring Davie Bowie 1,2 .....£0.25

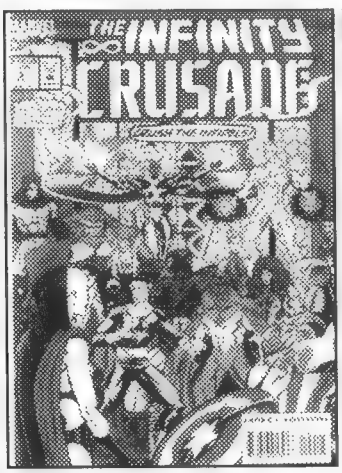
**N2280: LETHAL FOES OF SPIDER-MAN** (4 issues series) Spider-Man's most dedicated enemies unite in an all out assault on our web-slinging hero.
2,3,4 .....£0.25

**N2300: LUNATIK**: Marvel's 'version' of Lobo.
1,2,3 .....£0.50

**N2309: MACHINE MAN** (First series) Art by Steve Ditko. 10-13 .....£0.25
15-18 .... .....£0.25

**N2310: MACHINE MAN:** 4 issue mini series ostensibly by Herb Triumpe & Barry Smith, if you check it out though you'll find that Barry has virtually totally re-drawn it. 3,4.....£0.30

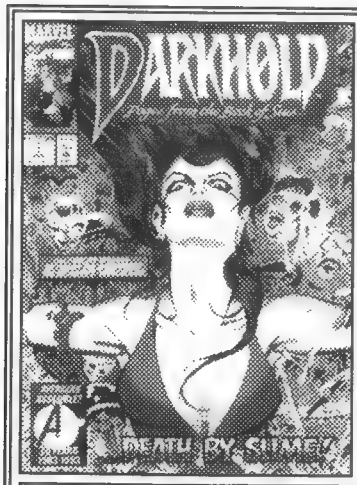
**N2311: MACHINE MAN 2020** (2 issue series)
1 reprints mini series
1 & 2 ..... ..... . £0.40
2 reprints mini series
3 & 4 . . ..... . ... £0 40



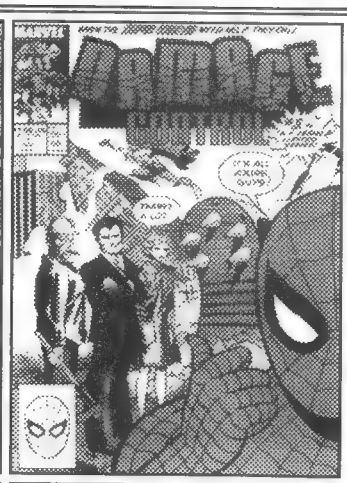
In the early 90's Jim Starlin (creator of Adam Warlock), Ron Lim and others got together to produce an intergalactic epic on a vast scale with the Infinity Series in Infinity Crusade, War and Gauntlet.

The blind Matt Murdock has been through many trials, not the least of which was a change of direction, costume and personality: we have stories for you going all the way back to the Frank Miller days.


**All prices given are per Copy or per Set. Flat rate shipping fee mainland UK whatever the size of order.**




THE DARKHOLD is a book of the arcane - the book of sins. The Darkhold draws many toward its power - in this issue Are Dr Strange and the Scarlet Witch really experiencing the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour in 1941?




When the Super-Heroes need help - who do they call - not Ghost Busters - that's for sure - try "Damage Control" the clean up crew - a concept successful enough to spawn 3 mini series.

**N2316: MAD DOG:** Flip books featuring two stories one in modern day style and the other in the sixties style. 1,2 .....£0.20

**N2318: MAGIK** (4 issue series) featuring Storm and Illyana from the X-Men and written by Chris Claremont 1 .....£0.25

**N2320: MAGNETO** (4 Issue series) The master of magnetism's first limited series written by Pete Milligan and drawn by Kelly Jones. $1.95 1 .....£1.50 2,3 .....£1.25

**N2330: MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN**: A Marvel Select title written by Mike Barr and painted by Rob Ortaleza. 1,2 .....£0.75

**MARVEL ACTION HOUR** A series of comics published to coincide with and promote the animated Marvel Action Hour on US TV.

**N2380; MARVEL ACTION HOUR FANTASTIC FOUR;** Bagged deluxe edition No 1 .....£0.40

**M2381: ACTION HOUR FANTASTIC FOUR** regular edition 1-8.....£0.25

**N2382; ACTION HOUR IRON MAN** deluxe 1....£0.40

**N2383: ACTION HOUR IRON MAN** regular edition 1-8 .....£0.25

**N2385: MARVEL AGE:** The long running Marvel News Comic Magazines, 3,4,6,8,9,11,13,18,21,22, 39,41-50,54,65,69,71,73,74, 77-79,83,84,86-89,91,95-97, 99,100,101,103,105-109, 119-125,135-137,139 ..£0.15

**N2386: MARVEL AGE ANNUAL** No 4.....£0.30

**N2450: MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS:** An anthology title featuring multiple stories in each issue, some stories are self contained while others run over several issue. Features the talents of people like Chris Claremont, Gene Colan, Steve Ditko, John Byrne, Paul Gulacy, Erik Larsen, Peter David, Rob Liefeld, Barry Windsor-Smith, Mark Texeira, Jae Lee and Sam Keith. This title is definitely worth a read at our prices:
2-10 Wolverine leads...£0.50
11-17 Colossus leads..£0.30
18-24 Cyclops leads....£0.30
25,26, 28-31 Havok leads.....£0.30
32,34-38 Excalibur .....£0.30
39-47,52,54-70 Wolverine leads .....£0.40
73 Weapon X leads .....£1.50
76-84 Weapon X leads £0.75
86-88 Wolverine leads.£0.40
90-142 Wolverine / Ghost Rider .....£0.30
147-149,156-160,162,163, 165-168, 170, 172 various.....£0.30

**N2452: MARVEL CLASSICS:** Adaptation of some of the classics of literature;
3 Hunchback of Notre Dame ..... .....£0.20
7 Tom Sawyer.....£0.20
8 Moby Dick.....£0.20

**N2460: MARVEL FANFARE** (1st series) the first deluxe glossy Marvel comic which features two stories per issues, some self contained and some continuing features, all of Marvel's main character s with creative line ups which feature the likes of Chris Claremont, Mike Mignola, John Byrne, Charles Vess, Walt Simonson and Dave Gibbons 1-6 .....£0.90
9,16,17,20 .....£0.50
25-31,36-44,46-60.....£0.30

**N2462: MARVEL FANFARE** (2nd series) current
1 Captain America, Falcon, Deathlok .....£0.40
2 Hulk, Wolverine .....£0.40
3 Spider-Man, Ghost Rider .....£0.40
4 Longshot.....£0.40

**N2470: CHILDREN OF THE VOYAGER** (4 issues series) A Marvel Frontier Comics title by Nick Abadzis and Paul Johnson. Suggested for Mature Readers. An immortal space traveller scatters incarnations of himself all over the earth hoping for an absolute understanding of humanity when he reabsorbs his 'children' Unfortunately his last child has different ideas.
1 Glow in dark cover....£0.90
2-4 .....£0.30

**N2471: DANCES WITH DEMONS** (4 issue series) A Marvel Frontier Comics title by Simon Jowett and Charlie Adlard. Suggested for Mature Readers. James Owl has inherited the powers of his native American ancestors but there is an evil spirit who wants them for himself.
1 ..... .. ..... .....£0.90
2-4 .....£0.30

**N2472: MARVEL FRONTIER COMICS SPECIAL** (Oneshot) features a short story for each of the titles in the Frontier Comics lines 1 ..... .....£1.00

**N2475: MORTIGAN GOTH: IMMORTALLIS** (4 issues series). A Marvel Frontier Comics Title by Nick Vince and Mark Buckingham. Suggested for mature readers. After losing his soul to the devil Goth spends eternity seeking adventure. 2-4 ..... .....£0.40

**N2510: MARVEL HOLIDAY SPECIAL:** Each issue contains several short stories. 1: Fantastic 4 story by Walt Simonson & Art Adams.....£0.65
2: Thanos story by Jim Starlin and Ron Lim.....£0.65
3: Nick Fury by Howard Chaykin & the Hulk by Peter David and Ron Lim.....£0.65

**N2518: MARVEL HOLIDAY SPECIAL** 1994: 1 Beast and Iceman story by Kurt Busiek and James Fry.....£0.65

**N2529: MARVEL MASTERPIECES** (1st series) Full page paintings by Joe Jusko of the Fleer cards 2,3,4 .....£0.75

**N2530: MARVEL MASTERPIECES** (2nd series) full page paintings by assorted artists including Glenn Fabry, Julie Bell, Dave Dorman, Dan Brereton, Joe Jusko and Mike Kaluta 1,2,3.....£0.50

**N2531: MARVEL PORTRAITS OF A UNIVERSE** (4 ISSUE SERIES). Full page pin ups of Marvel characters provided by amongst others, Dave Gibbons, Simon Bisley, Ray Lago and Scott Hampton. 1-4.....£0.60

**N2640: MARVEL SUPER-HEROES MEGAZINE.** 96 page reprints of Fantastic Four, Daredevil, Iron Man and Hulk stories. Includes work by John Byrne and Frank Miller 1-4 .....£1.00

**N2650: MARVEL SUPER-HEROES SPECIAL** (2nd series) Another anthology titles featuring assorted Marvel Characters including all the majors. 80 pages each issue. 1-3.....£0.85
5-12,14,15 .....£0.70

**N2660: MARVEL SUPER HEROES SECRET WARS:** 2,4,7 .....£0.75
8 origin of Spiderman's black alien costume (that eventually turned into Venom) ..£1.50
9-12 .....£0.60

**N2670: MARVEL TALES:** Reprints mainly Spider-Man stories with some Marvel team up stories. Issues 223 to 237 have Todd McFarlane covers. 133,176,185-187, 189, 194,195,197,203-204, 207-209,211,213,214, 217, 220,221,223-226,228-232, 237,240-241,246-249,255, 256, 258,259,261,263, 267-271,273-279,281-285, 287-291 .....£0.40

**N2680: MARVEL TEAM UP** 89,94 .....£0.40
100 1st Karma, origin of Storm.....£1.95
111 .....£0.40
150 .....£1.25

**N2681: MARVEL TEAM UP KING SIZE ANNUAL** 6 .....£0.60

**N2710: MARVEL TWO IN ONE:** Each issue features the Thing teamed up with another character; 11,35,39,47,51,52,58...£0.60
71,73,81,83,84,89, .....£0.30

**N2750: MEPHISTO vs** (4 issue series) 1 vs Fantastic Four .....£0.30
2 vs X-Factor .....£0.30
3 vs X-Men .....£0.50
4 vs Avengers.....£0.50

**N2752: METEOR MAN MOVIE ADAPTATION** 64 page one shot of the movie 1 .....£0.20

**N2753: METEOR MAN:** Short lived series, 6 issues, based on the film. 1 .....£0.20

**N2760: MICRONAUTS** (1st series). The adventures of Acroyear, Hunter, Bug, Commander Rann and Marionette. Features art by Howard Chaykin and Gil Kane. 6,8,9.....£0.50
11,12,16,28-40,42,43...£0.30
57 .....£0.50

**N2763: MICRONAUTS THE NEW VOYAGES:** The further adventures of the team from inner space. Features art by Kelley Jones. 8,15,17-20 .....£0.20

**N2780: MIDNIGHT SONS UNLIMITED:** Anthology title featuring Ghost Rider, Nightstalkers, Morbius and others. 1-3 .....£1.20
5,7,8 .....£1.10

**N2790: MIGHTY MORPHIN POWER RANGERS:** Written by Fabian Nicieza and drawn by Ron Lim and Tod Smith 1,2 .....£0.30

**N2795: MIGHTY MORPHIN POWER RANGERS THE MOVIE.** The official adaptation of the movie using stills from the film instead of artwork 1 .....£0.50

**N2798: MONSTER MENACE**: 1-3.....£0.20

**N2800: MOON KNIGHT Vol 1:** Marc Spector a.k.a. Moon Knight battles the denizens of the dark. The following issues feature art by Bill Sienkiewicz. 3,10,14,17,29 .....£0.75

**N2801: MOON KNIGHT Vol 2:** The Fist of Konshu 4,5 .....£0.40

**N2802: MOON KNIGHT Vol 3:** Marc Spector. The title that made Stephen Platt a hot property. 1.....£0.50
2-8,10-19,21-24,26-32, 34-49,51-54 .....£0.30
59 Stephen Platt cover £0.75

**N2803: MOON KNIGHT SPECIAL EDITION.** Co-starring Shang-Chi the Master of Kung Fu 1.....£0.30

**N2840: MORBIUS THE LIVING VAMPIRE:** This would be a pretty boring title if he were dead! However its the 'adventures' of Michael Morbius a bio-chemist dying of an unknown blood disease who after finding a cure then discovered he had leapt from the frying pan into the fire because he was now a Vampire! 2-11,13,18-20,24, 26,27,30 .....£0.30

**N2841: MORBIUS REVISITED:** Classic tales of the living vampire. 1-5 .£0.25

**N2880: THE NAM:** Tales set in Vietnam and experiences during what turned out to be no win situations. What surprised me was the frequency with which the Punisher turned up to help out. 4,6-8 Michael Golden art .....£0.45
14-16, 23-29,53,54,69,70, 73-79 .....£0.25

**N2890: NAMOR THE SUB-MARINER:** The adventures of the Lord of Atlantis on land, sea and air! Good read, good art!
4-6,13-23 Words and pictures John Byrne .....£0.40
35,36,39,40 Jae Lee art£0.40
41-46 .....£0.25
50 48 pages.....£0.40
52-54,57 .....£0.25

**N2891: NAMOR ANNUAL:** 1-4 .....£0.35

**N2920: NEW MUTANTS:** This started out as the junior X-Men but is best remembered for Rob Liefelds contribution in later issues. However if you enjoy the X-Men then at these prices, this makes a good read.
8 Chris Claremont .....£0.75
20 Claremont & Sienkiewicz.....£0.95
21 double size issue....£1.50
55,57,58,60-79,81 .....£0.30

**N2921: NEW MUTANTS ANNUAL** 1 ..... .....£1.25
7 .....£0.75

**N2922: NEW MUTANTS SPECIAL EDITION** written by Chris Claremont and drawn by Art Adams. 1 .....£1.25

**N2925 NEW MUTANTS SUMMER SPECIAL** 80 pages 1.....£1.25

**N2950: NEW WARRIORS** Night Thrasher, Namorita, Kid Nova, Marvel Boy, Firestar, Speedball, Silhouette, Scarlet Spider and others join forces in various line ups to fight nefarious villains. 11-34,37-40,42,43, 50-56,64-66,69-75.....£0.50

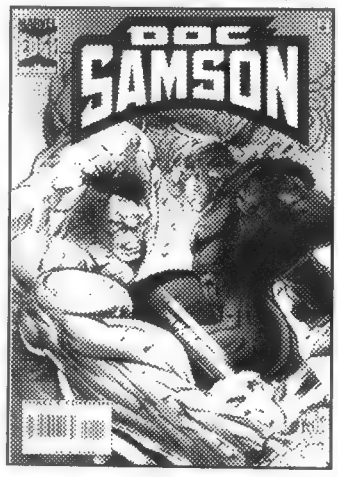
**N2951: NEW WARRIORS** Enhanced cover version 40 Gold foil .....£0.95
50 Glow in the Dark.....£1.25

**N1420: FORCEWORKS:** Another attempt at wielding a Superteam together led by Iron Man then War Machine. Written by Dan Abnett & Andy Lanning with various artists (1994) $1.50 3-8, 10,13,18,20-22.....£0.40

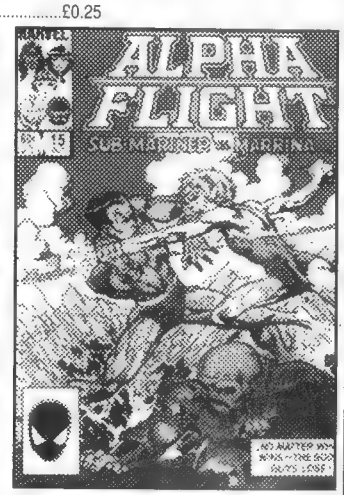
**N1425: THE FURTHER ADVENTURES OF CYCLOPS & PHOENIX:** Another 4 part mini series with Scott & Jean in a time travelling adventure written by Peter Milligan, John Paul Leon pencils and Klaus Jansen inks ($1.95) 1996 1-4 .....£1.25

**N1440: FURY:** 1994: giant-sized oneshot with Barry Dutter writing, MC Wyman on art and Chris Ivy and Greg Adams on inks ($2.95) .....£0.95

**N1450: FURY OF S.H.I.E.L.D.** The 1995 relaunch of Fury written by Howard Chaykin ($1.95) 2,3,4 .....£0.65




Doc Sampson has green hair in pony tail and is gamma radiated just like his buddy The Hulk. Here in this four issue mini - they clash!




John Byrne's long run on Alpha Flight in the early 80's set the tone for the book which was extremely popular in its day.

**N1560: GALACTIC GUARDIANS** a revitalised Guardians of the Galaxy are the Galactic Guardians in the 31st Century, in a 4 issue mini that pits them against a futuristic Asgaard (1994) $1.50 1-4 .....£0.40

**N1570: GAMBIT & THE X-TERNALS**; 4 issue mini series of the Age of Apocalypse $1.95 3.....£1.20 4 Warehouse special ...£0.50

**N1590: GARGOYLES:** from the animated TV series (1995) 1 embossed cover $2.50 .....£0.60 3-6 $1.50 .....£0.40

**N1618: GENERATION NEXT:** More of the Age of Apocalypse 2-4 $1.95..£1.25

**N1620: GENERATION X:** Marvel's latest team of mutants in training at Professor Xavier's School. This group who already have had a TV movie made about them are being taught by their mentors Banshee (Irish Screamer) and The White Witch (reformed villainess of the Hell Fire Club). Gen X created by Scott Lobdell and Chris Bachalo is one of the best books to come out of Marvel in the past few years. Early issues are written by Scott Lobdell art by Chris Bachalo and inks Mark Buckingham. Roger Cruz then took over as guest penciller. 2,3,4,7 .....£2.50 5,6,8 Warehouse special at just..... £0.75 9,10 .....£1.50 11-24.....£1.25

**N1626: GENERATION X '96:** Marvel's new way of labelling annuals is to call them apostrophe - year e.g. '96 is the 1996 annual for Generation X. 64 pages written by Michael Golden, art by Jeff Johnson & Dan Panosian, wraparound cover ($2.95) .....£1.80

**N1640: GHOST RIDER:** The current series that commenced in 1990 and continues to the present day. In this incarnation the legend goes that when innocent blood is spilled, a spirit of Vengeance is born and one Danny Ketch finds himself transformed into the Motor Bike rider from Hell with the blazing Skull Head. Written by Howard Mackie with artists like Mark Texiera, Larry Stroman, Ron Wagner and Brett Blevins. ($1.50) 7,9-24 .....£0.40 25 Double sized special issue with pop up centrefold ($2.75) .....£0.75 29,30 pencils Andy Kubert, inks Joe Kubert.....£0.75 31 Rise of Midnight Sons, Collectors issue with bonus poster ($2.50) .....£0.75 32-39 .....£0.40 then with the Rise of the Midnight Sons Lt. Michael Badiiino finds himself transformed into the Ghost Rider - Spirit of Vengeance 46-48 .....£0.40 after issue 50 Danny Ketch is back. 52,53,54 .....£0.40 55 Special fill in issue written by Warren Ellis with Salvador Larroca on art .....£0.75 56,58-60,62 .....£0.40 G.R. is now part of the Marvel Edge Series @ $1.95 67 guest starring Gambit and featuring The Brood Feud II .....£1.25 68 Brood Feud II conclusion guest starring Gambit and Wolverine.....£1.40 71,72,73,74,76,77,80 ..£0.75 (by this time G R is back to $1.50 an issue)

**N1642: GHOST RIDER** Issue 50: special doublesized die cut red foil cover with art from Adam Kubert, Dan Green, Scott McDaniel and Jimmy Palmiotti among others ($2.95).....£1.50

**N1769: HAWKEYE** (1st 4 issue series) Hawkeye of Avengers fame, and Mockingbird go up against Oddball and Bombshell in this 1983 series. 3,4 ....£0.30

**N1790: HAWKEYE** (2nd 4 issue series). Clint Barton tries to piece together his life after the death of his wife / partner Mockingbird, but sometimes there is no rest to be found. 1 .....£0.30

**N1800: HELLSTORM:** Daimon Hellstorm, son of Satan, prince of lies, is back complete with flaming demonic trident to protect the Earth from his father's minions. 1 "parchment' cover.....£0.80 3-13,21 .....£0.50

**N1810: HERCULES PRINCE OF POWER** (4 issue series). Nothing to do with the TV series this story has the Son of Zeus educating the extra terrestrial pioneers from Rigel in the ways of the Earth in this 1982 mini-series 1,4 .....£0.25

**N1820: HERCULES PRINCE OF POWER** (4 issue series) in this 1984 series the Lion of Olympus saves the Galaxy aided by his friend Recorder from the 1st series. 1-4 .....£0.25

**N1828: HERO** (6 issue series). Cody Pace the warrior of the mystic realm. David Michelenie gives us Swords and Sorcery followed by Swords and Science in this off beat tale 1-4,6 ..£0.25

**N1840: HEROES & LEGENDS:** This $2.95 one shot from October 1996 features almost the entire Marvel Universe and uses a fair share of its writers and artists as well to bring us a revamped tale of Reed Richards and Sue Storm's wedding from FF Annual #3 .....£1.50

**N1854: HOOK** (4 issue series). Charles Vess provided the covers and wrote this official adaptation of the Spielberg film. 1-4 .....£0.25

**N1890: HULK 2099:** Future incarnation of every comic readers favourite jolly green giant, only this time Hulky has really long nails and a stretched pointy tongue. 1 green foil cover ($2.50) .....£0.60 2-6 ($1.50).....£0.40 7-9 ($1.95).....£0.50

**N1918: ICEMAN:** Bobby of the X-Men is his own 1984 mini series 1 .....£0.25

**N1940: INCREDIBLE HULK** One of Marvel's most popular and enduring characters. Peter David has written nearly every issue since 328 his artists have included people like John Byrne, Todd McFarlane and Dale Keown (who made his name on the title). At one time or anther nearly all of the characters in the Marvel Universe have appeared in the Hulk's book. 300 .....£1.95 317,319 John Byrne ...£0.95 324 1st modern Grey Hulk .....£1.95 341,343-345 Todd McFarlane art .....£1.95 346 Larsen/MacFarlane art .....£1.10 347,355,356,360,392 ..£0.95 393 64 page special ....£1.10 394,397,399 .....£0.75 400 .....£1.10 401,402,404,410-414, 421,424 .....£0.75 426-438,440-442 .....£1.20 443-449 .....£0.85

**N1950: INCREDIBLE HULK ANNUAL:** 18 1992 Featuring some art by Travis Charest .....£0.75 20 1994 featuring art by Salvador Larroca .....£0.60

**N1952: HULK - HERCULES UNLEASHED** A clash of titans written by Peter David and drawn by Mike Deodata Jr. ($2.50) 1 .....£1.50

**N1970: INFINITY CRUSADE** (6 issue series) Third part of the Infinity trilogy written by Jim Starlin with art by Ron Lim. Warlock, Silver Surfer and Thanos appear throughout. 1 Gold foil cover, Warehouse special ($3.50).....£0.30 2,3,4 ($2.50).....£0.40

**N1980: INFINITY GAUNTLET** (6 issue series) First part of the Infinity trilogy written by Jim Starlin with art by George Perez. This time its Warlock, Silver Surfer, Thanos and Dr Strange amongst others. 2,6 ($2.50).....£0.40

**N1990: INFINITY WAR** (6 issue series). Second part of the Infinity Trilogy with a Jim Starlin script and Ron Lim art. With Spider-Man and Wolverine plus guests galore. All issues have gatefold covers by Ron Lim. 1-6 ($2.50).....£0.40

**N1995: INDEPENDENCE DAY**.. (3 issue series) Based on the blockbuster film. 0,1,2 ($1.95).....£1.20

**N2010: THE INHUMANS** (from 1995) 1 ($2.95) ..£1.25

**N2020: THE INHUMANS; THE UNTOLD SAGA** King size special from 1990 1 ($1.50) .....£0.95

**N2040: THE INVADERS** (4 issue series) Stars Captain America, Namor and the Human Torch, plus Miss America. 1-3 ($1.75)....£0.50

**N2043: IRON FIST** (1st series). Iron Fist the living weapon versus Captain America the living legend. We have found deep in the recesses of The Warehouse some copies of issue 12 by Chris Claremont and John Byrne from April 1977. 12 .....£2.95

**N2045: IRON FIST** (2 issue series). The 1996 tryout to see if the character was popular enough for a new series. Was he? The jury is still out! However, this mini mini-series features guest art from newcomer Robert Brown. 1,2 ($1.50).....£0.80

**N2060: IRON FIST** Marvel Milestone Edition represents the first Sabretooth appearance in Iron Fist 14.....£0.75

**N2070: IRON MAN** (1st series) Tony Stark with his heart conditions has been around since the dawn of Marvel. Through crisis after crisis, from heart attack to alcoholism to give up the armour he's survived it all. Now part of the Heroes Reborn titles produced by Jim Lee. Anyway, here are historical adventures of the one true Iron Man. 204,208,228,229 .....£0.40 232 Barry Windsor-Smith art .....£0.80 233-249,253,256,257,264, 266-281,287,289,293, 295-299 .....£0.40 300 64 pages.....£0.60 307,309,310,316, 326-332 .....£0.80

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**N2075: IRON MAN** (2nd series) One of the highly publicised Heroes Reborn titles and one of those that has met with considerable approval. Written by Jim Lee and Scott Lobdell with art by Whilce Portacio and Scott Williams / JD. Highly recommended! 1 ($2.95) .....£1.75 2,3 ($1.95) .....£1.25

**N2080: IRON MAN ANNUAL** 5: Iron man in Wakanda with Black Panther up against Killmonger, Madam Sky and? .....£1.50 9,10,15 .....£0.50 12,13 .....£0.40

**N2090: IRON MAN: FORCEWORKS:** Collectors Preview 1.....£0.40

**N2105: IRON MAN THE LEGEND:** Produced prior to the launch of the Heroes Reborn title to introduce new readers and remind some older ones, of the history of Iron Man 1 ($3.95).....£1.50

**N2110: IRON MAN** Marvel Milestone Editions reprinting 39 (first Iron Man ) & 55 (Starlin, first Thanos) ...£0.60

***Last Word:*** Well good people, I dind't run out of space this time, I ran out of time and had to stop around half way through the Marvel alphabet. We still have the rest of the alphabet to go plus Malibu, Marvel Epic and all the other publishers sitting on our shelves.

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MAJOR DIGRESSIONS

# The Phantom: Wot no pygmies?

*Peter David, writer of comics, paperbacks, film scripts and stuff, contributes a weekly column "But I Digress" to US trade paper* ***The Comic Buyer's Guide****. In addition to appearing monthly in* ***Comics International****, he also writes* ***Aquaman*** *and* ***Supergirl*** *for DC,* ***Incredible Hulk*** *for Marvel and* ***Soulsearchers & Co*** *for Claypool*

IT WAS about six or seven years ago, when I was first probing the possibility that I might become a full-time writer.

It was not a decision that I was making lightly. After all, I had a secure "day job" at Marvel as the direct-sales manager. There was no particular reason to go anywhere — no reason except that writing the comics seemed to be developing into a more fulfilling job than selling them. And, if I became a freelance writer, it meant no more commuting, no more staying late at the office. I could spend more time with the kids. Yes, there seemed to be any number of practical reasons to try my hand at being a full-time writer.

Nevertheless, I had a great deal of trepidation. I was writing **Incredible Hulk** at the time and was picking up other work here and there, It seemed a solid gig, but, then, so had my tenure on **Spec Spidey**, and I'd been fired off of that with no notice whatsoever. So anything was possible, and I was concerned that I was going out on a limb, putting all my eggs in one basket, and whatever other appropriate cliches you can come up with.

So I made some tentative inquiries at DC Comics but I couldn't possibly have accepted any work for it.

As a Marvel staff employee, working for the opposition was strictly forbidden. It would have represented a potential conflict of interest. Still, there was no harm in asking — inquiring what, if I became a full-time freelancer, the chances would be of my picking up some writing work at DC.

(Wisely, I didn't suggest whacking off anyone's hand and putting a harpoon on it. They might have considered that just a touch radical.)

To my astonishment, I was offered a mini-series immediately. I wasn't in a position to sign a contract, start working for it, or in any way begin any sort of work for DC. But there was a tacit understanding that the offer wasn't going to anyone else for a few weeks.

And during that time, I informed my boss, Carol Kalish, that I was going to embark on a career as, God help me, a freelancer, so that within a few weeks, I could officially begin my first work for DC Comics as a free-and-clear freelancer.

The point of the foregoing? The project was a four-issue limited series about The Phantom.

The Phantom, the seminal character who helped define what superheroes would be all about. The Ghost Who Walks, hanging out in the jungle like a purple-clad Tarzan, striding through century after century due to a familial vow that one man had made: to dedicate his life to fighting villainy in general, piracy in particular, and on behalf of the innocent everywhere. And he dedicated not only his own life to this ambition, but those of his sons.

Over the centuries, the gods and genetics were kind to this oath, despite the likelihood of one of the following scenarios occurring at some point during the succeeding 20-or-so generations:

- A Phantom who produces only female offspring (although a daughter did briefly take up the mantle of The Phantom, as I recall, when her brother was incapacitated).
- A Phantom who has low motility.
- A Phantom who can never find a woman interested in giving up civilisation for the questionable destiny of shacking up in a skull-shaped cave with a guy in purple tights and a bunch of pygmies.
- A Phantom who is killed before he can reproduce — it *is* a very dangerous profession, you know.
- A Phantom who marries a woman who turns out to be barren.
- A Phantom who's gay or impotent or in some other way, shape, or form is simply uninterested in or unable to

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have sex with a female.

● A Phantom who produces a son who rebels. Just imagine 20 generations of sons who obediently fall into line. Not a single one of them says, "You want me to put on a purple costume with diagonally striped jockey shorts, which I wear on the outside, and fight evil? Forget it. I want to be a doctor/actor/TV repairman/bum. I want to be my own man, not bound by some promise made hundreds of years ago. There are no pirates anymore, so let's get with the program, OK? For pity's sake, Dad, I want to live my own life, not yours."

None of that ever gets said, so the Phantom line continues unabated, year after year, century after century. And, of course, to the outside world, The Phantom is this legendary, un-killable guy. The Ghost Who Walks.

It's a heroic ideal so overwhelming that 20 generations have been swept up in it.

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Curiously, the **Phantom** comic book I wrote (drawn in to judge a film by its promotion, but I have to say the slogan "Slam Evil" which appeared on the posters had to be the least imaginative promo line I'd ever seen. "Slam Evil?" That was the one they went with? Can you imagine the rejects? (Although, considering some of my experiences with people in the decision-making hierarchy of show business, it might well have been that the rejects were actually far superior. One never knows.)

Good news and bad news.

The good news is that I was dead, albeit happily, wrong. The makers of *The Phantom* have performed a rare, almost miraculous feat: they have crafted a film that has a style, an energy, and — most importantly — a sense of fun all its own.

The very first thing to appear on the screen is the phrase "For Those Who Came in Late". Every so often, Phantom creator Lee Falk would run an origin strip to tell new readers (an inevitable development, considering the strip's half-century-plus tenure) The Phantom's backstory.

That's what they did here, using the exact words that Falk always opened the recap strip with.

Some people have subsequently groused that the film shouldn't have been so up-front. That the mystery should have been played up, particularly since one of the thugs in the film has killed the previous Phantom and so is disconcerted when he suddenly finds himself face-to-mask with (apparently) the same guy.

I can see the point, but I also respect and appreciate the decision to do it just the way the comic strip does. It really helps set the tone for those in the know.

Billy Zane pulls off the near-miraculous feat of making The Phantom believable, rather than ludicrous. Physically, he cuts an impressive and striking figure in the purple tights, never losing for a moment either his confidence or his dignity. His piercing eyes, square jaw, and determined expression really sell the notion that this guy has dedicated his life to fighting evil. He seems equally at home in the jungle as during the city sequences in which, as Kit Walker, he goes to New York City (clad in traditional raincoat, hat, and funky sunglasses to substitute for a mask) in order to track down the bad guys. These are bad

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guys who are interested in acquiring three mystical skulls which will enable them to command world-conquering forces.

Kristy Swanson is introduced as the Phantom's main squeeze Diana Palmer. Adventure films haven't seen a heroine this rough and tumble and no-nonsense since Princess Leia (at least Leia of the first film; once she started developing an interest in Han Solo, I thought she lost some of her zip). Since the movie is set in the 1930s, their relationship has a Nick-and-Nora-Charles, Tracy-and-Hepburn feel to it, with the kind of rat-a-tat style that was so much a part of the period.

The moment which completely sold me on the film comes when Diana is bound and helpless in the cabin of a boat, being guarded and lorded over by a slightly kinky henchwoman. The Phantom gets the drop on them, literally, when he comes crashing in through the ceiling. After having released Diana, who not only takes the rescue in stride but actually seems blasé about it (as if she takes for granted that she's going to be rescued because she's privileged), the question remains of what to do with the henchwoman.

"Tie her up — " instructs The Phantom briskly. Diana hauls off and belts the henchwoman into the middle of next week, knocking her unconscious with a single punch. " — or don't," The Phantom concludes.

I thought that was great (egotistically, I suppose, since I'd done similar sorts of riffs in writing of my own, wherein the hero just kind of shrugs it off, as circumstances abruptly change around him and his intentions become moot). One of the big problems in so many action films lately — particularly comic book related ones — is that all the dialogue sounds exactly the same. All of it is filled with the same kind of macho, swaggering puns, as if some sort of generic How-to-Write-Heroes book was circulating and everyone was taking their cues from it.

And the film had the presence of Treat Williams as the villainous, skull-acquiring schemer. Williams hasn't been this over-the-top since he danced on a dining room table in *Hair*. And he doesn't need bizarre facial make-up or a garish suit in order to sell his villainy. An evil Donald Trump: not only was he evil, but he revelled in his own evilness with a zealousness that was almost endearing. He didn't have to rationalise or justify himself. He was The Bad Guy, period, and it's just so good to be bad.

Mention should also be made of Patrick McGoohan, appearing as a genuine ghost: the ghost of The Phantom's father, slain before the film's action takes place. The scenes between the two of them help to underscore the lineage that The Phantom carries with him. In a way, it's representative of all those who have gone before and all the emotional and family baggage that The Phantom carries with him.

The bad news is: no pygmies. That surprises me. In a movie summer where one of the big protagonists is a guy with a hunchback, and in a film where the lead runs around in purple tights, the filmakers thought that the movie-going public couldn't handle pygmies? Geez.

The film is chock-a-block full with daredevil antics, frenetic action, a couple of screaming unlikelihoods, and an "I-Can't-Believe-I'm-Seeing-This" sequence in which The Phantom and Diana, trapped in a plane that's heading toward a final impact against a mountain, transfer from the hurtling plane to The Phantom's galloping white horse pacing them just below the landing gear. I heard mutterings in the theatre afterward that it was too much like an Indiana Jones film, the mutterers apparently oblivious that Indiana Jones is merely a rehash of The Phantom and a few other 1930s and '40s movie serials.

Indy is the copy; The Phantom is the genuine article. Just as the film is the genuine article: one of the most faithful and fun comics adaptations ever.

But there's more bad news: it tanked at the box office, and I'd be very surprised if there were any more Phantom films. Which is a crying shame. After 21 generations, The Phantom has finally come up against insidious forces even *he* can't overwhelm: the summer movie-going glut and an apathetic public which couldn't be sold on giving the film a chance.

"Slam Evil." Cripes.

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*(Peter David, writer of stuff, can be contacted at To Be Continued Inc., PO Box 239, Bayport, NY 11705, United States of America.)*


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# RETAIL INDEX

**Key to abbreviations used**

| | |
|---|---|
| imp | = air imported new issues |
| back | = back issues stocked |
| s-p | = small press & fanzines |
| merch | = trading cards, videos, T-shirts, posters, models, etc |
| Ind | = US independent comics (non-newsstand & manga) |
| Brit | = British comics & albums |
| u/g | = underground comics |
| gn | = graphic novels & trade paperback editions |
| STO | = standing order service, (new comics reserved) |
| RPG | = role playing games |
| CCG | = customisable card games |

## CENTRAL LONDON

■ **Adventureland Inc**, 309 Railton Rd, Herne Hill, London SE24 0JN. Thur-Fri 12-6.30; Sat 11-6; Sun 12-4. (imp, back, ind, gn, merch, STO, collectable toys) 0171 346 0020

■ **Avalon Comics**, 143 Lavender Hill, London SW11. Mon-Thur 10.00-5.45, Fri 10.00-6.30; Sat 9.30-6.00 (imp, back, ind, Brit, gn, STO) 0171-924 3609

■ **Book & Comic Exchange**, 14 Pembridge Road, Notting Hill Gate, London W11. Mon-Sun: 10-8. Nothing legal refused (back, ind, Brit, u/g, gn) 0171 229 8420

■ **Comic Showcase**, 76 Neal St, London WC2. Mon - Wed 10-6; Thurs - Sat 10-7; Sun 12-5 (imp, back s-p, merch, ind, u/g, Brit, gn, cartoon books, original art) 0171-240 3664

■ **Forbidden Planet**, 71 New Oxford St, London WC1A 1DG. Mon-Wed & Sat 10-6; Thurs & Fri 10-7 (imp, back s-p, merch, ind, u/g, Brit, gn, film & tv) 0171 836 4179

■ **Gosh!** 39 Great Russell Street, London WC1 (opposite British Museum) 10-6 7 days a week inc Bank Hols. Late Thur-Fri til 7 (imp, back, merch, ind, Brit, frgn, u/g, gn, STO, largest selection of newspaper strip compilations in UK) 0171 636 1011

■ **Mega-City Comics**, 18 Inverness Street, Camden Town, London NW1 7HJ. Mon-Sun 10-6; late Thurs + Fri to 7. (imp, back, merch, s-p, ind, Brit, u/g, gn, film-tv fantasy, horror, body art, subculture, STO) 0171 485 9320

■ **Platinum Age Comics/Bayswater Books**, 27a Craven Terrace, Lancaster Gate, London W2 3EL. Mon-Sun 11-7 (but sometimes till midnight!) (back, ind, u/g, general 2nd hand books, search service) 0171 402 7398

## OUTER LONDON

■ **Altered Images**, 3 Eagle Star House, 299-301 High St, Sutton, Surrey SM1 1LG. Mon-Wed & Fri 10.30-5.30; Thur 10-7; Sat 9-6 (imp back ind merch Brit gn STO) 0181 770 3815

■ **Archive Collections**, 328 High Street, Orpington, Kent BR6 0NQ. Mon-Thur 10-5.30; Fri 10-6; Sat 9-6; Sun 10-1 (imp, back merch, ind, Brit, gn, STO) 01689 824489

■ **Atomic Comics**, 1112 High Rd, Chadwell Heath, Romford, Essex RM6 4AH. Mon-Sat 10-6 excl Fri 10-7 (imp, back, s-p, ind, merch, u/g, Brit, gn, STO, 2nd hand horror fantasy sf bks, original art) 0181-597 8547

■ **Blue Silver Comics**, 32 Northfield Ave, West Ealing, London W13 9RL. Mon-Wed 11-6.30; Thur-Fri 11-7; Sat 10-6; Sun 11-4. (imp, back, merch, ind, gn, STO) 0181 840 9446

■ **Book Gallery: The Illustrated Book Shop**, 11-17 Stockwell St, Greenwich, London SE10 9JN. Tues-Fri 10-6, Sat & Sun 9.30-5.30 (imp, back, ind, gn, u/g, 2nd hand & new SF-horror-fantasy bks, art bks, bargain bks, remainders, art prints) 0181 853 2151

■ **Calamity Comics**, 160 Station Road, Harrow, Middlesex HA1 2HR. Mon-Wed 10-6, Thurs & Fri 10-7; Sat 9.30-6 (imp, back, s-p, merch, ind, u/g, Brit, gn, STO, fantasy tv & film bks & merch, Sega & Nintendo game cartridges, videos) 0181-427 3831

■ **Comic Mania**, Unit 35, In-Shops (opposite police station), High Street, Wealdstone, Middlesex HA3 5DE. Mon-Sat 10-5.30 (imp, back, merch, ind, gn, STO) 0181 427 2090

■ **Comic Shack**, 720 High Rd, Leytonstone, London E11 3NN. Mon-Thurs 9.30- 5.30; Fri & Sat 9.30-6.30; Sun 11-5. Also by appointment (imp, back, s-p, merch, u/g, gn, hbks) 0181-539 7260/0181-555 9303 (eve)

■ **Comic World**, Unit 11 Acton Market, The Oaks Shopping Centre, High Street, Acton, London W3 6RF. Mon-Wed 11-6; Thur-Fri 11-7; Sat 10-6.30 (imp, back, merch, gn, ind, STO) 0181 992 9100

■ **Economy Comics**, 12 Plumstead High St, Plumstead, London SE18 1SN. Mon-Sat 12-8; Sun 12-5 (imp, back, ind, merch, STO, cards + ltd editions) 0181 310 3375

■ **Forbidden Planet**, 175 North End, Croydon CR0 1TP. Mon-Sat 9.30-6.00; Thurs till 7. (imp, back, ind, gn, merch, Brit, STO, CCGs, film/tv mags, sf/fantasy bks, videos) 0181 681 5189

■ **Kent Comics**, 42 Well Hall Rd, Eltham, London SE9 6SF. Mon Tues Thur Sat 10-5, Fri 10-6, closed Wed & Sun (imp, back, merch, gn, STO, CCG) 0181 850 5779

■ **Krypton Komics**, 252 High Road, Tottenham, London N15 4AJ (next to Tesco) Mon-Wed 10-6; Thur-Fri 9.30-7; Sat 9-6. Tube: Seven Sisters Road. (imp, back, s-p, ind, gn, STO) 0181-801 5378

■ **Mighty World of Comicana**, 125 East Barnet Rd, Barnet, Herts EN4 8RF. Mon-Wed 10.30-6.30; Thur-Sat 10-7; Sun 10-4 (imp, back, s-p, ind, Brit, u/g tv-film & fantasy gn STO) 0181-449 5535

■ **Readers Dream**, 100A Harlington Road West, Feltham (near Heathrow airport) Middx TW14 0JJ. Mon-Sat 9.30-6.00 excl Wed - closed (imp, back, gn, STO) 0181-844 0780

■ **Rodney's Comics & Games**, 33 Longbridge Rd, Barking, Essex IG11 8TN. Mon-Sat 9.30-6 (late Fri 7pm) (imp, back, ind, gn, cards, Sony/Sega dealership, video/cd, RPG, CCGs) 0181 594 2858

■ **Skinny Melink's**, 66 Loampit Vale, Lewisham, London SE13. Sun-Tues 11-6; Wed-Sat 11-7 (imp, back, ind s-p, u/g, gn, STO) 0181-318 0499

■ **They Walk Among Us**, 32 Union Court, Sheen Rd, Richmond, Surrey TW9 1AA. Mon-Sat 9.30-5.30 excl Fri 9.30-6 (imp, merch, back, ind, Brit, u/g, gn, fantasy/s-f/horror bks, STO, sub-culture) Phone/fax 0181 948 8476

■ **30th Century Comics**, Unit 5, Putney Market (1st Floor), Putney Exchange Shopping Centre, Putney High Street, London SW15 1TW. Mon-Sat 9-6 (imp, back, s-p, merch, ind, u/g, gn, STO, film & tv, fantasy/horror/sf bks) 0181 788 2052

■ **Time Trek**, 46 High Street, Bromley, Kent BR1 1TR. Mon - Sat 9 - 5.30 (late Thurs to 8) (imp, back, s-p, merch, ind, Brit, u/g, gn, sf TV & film related merch, STO) 0181 313 0677

■ **Universal Comics**, 5 Bell Parade Bell Rd, Hounslow TW3 3NS. Mon-Sat 10-5.30 (imp, back, ind, merch, gn, STO) 0181 577 8450

■ **Westside Comics** *now at:* 442 Uxbridge Road, Hayes, Middlesex UB4 0EL. Mon-Fri 11.00-6.00, Sat 10.00-6.00 (imp, back, ind, Brit, gn, STO). 0181-813 5019

## SOUTH EAST

■ **ACE Comics**, 1 Headgate Buildings, St John's St, Colchester, Essex C02 7AD. Mon -Sat 10-5.30 (imp, back, s-p, merch, u/g, Brit, ind gn STO RPG, rock t-shirts) 01206 561912

■ **The American Comic Shop**, 1 Church St, Chatham, Kent ME4 4BS (just off High St). Mon-Thurs 10-5.30, Fri 9.30-5.30, Sat 9-5.30. (imp, back, gn, STO, merch, Trek & Star Wars merch, ind, original artwork) 01634 817410

■ **Andy's Comic Cavern**, Windsor Open Market (back of Woolworth's), Bachelors Acre, Windsor. Saturdays only 7.30-4.00 (imp, back, ind, gn, STO) Free delivery for Windsor & Slough area. 01753 621978

■ **Calamity Comics 2**, 90 Queens Road, The Broadway, Watford, Herts WD1 2LA. Mon-Tues 10-5.30; closed Wed; Thurs & Fri 10-7; Sat 9.30-5.30 (imp, back, s-p, merch, ind, u/g, Brit, gn, STO, fantasy tv & film bks & merch, videos) 01923 249293

■ **Cartoon Shop**, 22 Southernhay, Town Centre, Basildon, Essex SS14 1EL. Mon - Wed & Sat 10-6, Thurs & Fri 10-8 (imp, back, s-p, ind, merch, Brit, u/g, gn, RPG) 01268 534194

■ **Cartoon Shop**, 368 Chartwell West, Top Floor, Victoria Circus Shopping Centre, Southend-on-Sea, Essex. Mon-Sat 9.30-5.30 (imp, back, s-p, ind, merch, Brit, u/g, gn, RPG) 01702 613021

■ **Central City Comics**, 4 Eagle Street, Ipswich, Suffolk IP4 1JB. Mon - Sat 10.00 - 6.00. (imp, back, s-p, merch, ind, u/g, Brit, frgn, gn, STO) 01473 233017

■ **Comic Showcase**, 19-20 St Clements St, Oxford. Mon-Sat 10-6 (imp, back, s-p, ind, merch, u/g, gn, STO) 01865-723680

■ **David's Comics**, 3 Sydney Street, Brighton, Sussex BN1 4EN. Mon-Fri 9.30-6; Sat 9-6. (imp, back, ind, u/g, Brit, STO, gn, exchange, club discount) 01273 690223

■ **Escape**, Cheapside, Reading, Berkshire RG1 7AG (near Odeon Cinema). Tues-Sat 10-5.30 (imp, back, ind, merch, gn, STO, film & tv) 01734 575131

■ **Fantastic Store Ink**, 14 Gardner Street, Brighton BN1 1UP. Mon-Fri 9.30-5.30; Sat 9-6. (imp, back, ind, s-p, merch, Brit, u/g, STO, original art) 01273 670012

■ **Forbidden Planet**, 60 Burleigh St., Cambridge CB1 1DJ. Mon-Sat 9.30-6.00 (imp, back, ind, gn, Brit, u/g, STO, CCG, videos, sf/fantasy bks, tv/film mags, merch) 01223 301 666

■ **Incognito Comic Shop**, 1-2 The Friars, Canterbury, Kent CT1 2AS. Mon-Fri 10-5.30; Sat 9-5.30 (imp, back, ind, merch, gn, Brit, STO, film/tv merch) phone/fax: 01227 785898

■ **Incognito Comic Shop**, 21 Union St, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1EB. Mon-Fri 10-5.30; Sat 9-5.30 (imp, back, ind, merch, gn, Brit, STO, film/tv merch) phone/fax: 01622-683642

■ **MTCC Trading Cards**, c/o In Retrospect, 107-109 Orpington High St, Orpington, Kent BR6 0LG. Mon-Sat 10-5. (trading cards, Trek-Disney-fantasy-etc) 01689 835700

■ **Off World: The Sci-Fi Store**, Unit 20, Romford Shopping Halls, Market Place, Romford, Essex RM1 3AT. Mon-Sat 9.30-5 (merch s-p imp STO CCG; specialists in Trek, Star Wars & s-f collectables) 01708 765633

■ **Reservoir Frogs Comic Shop** is now at: 6 Kensington Gardens, Brighton BN1 1AL. Mon-Sat 8.30-6.00; 12-4 Sun (imp, back, gn, STO, u/g, ind) phone/fax: 01273 687802

■ **Tall Toad Comics**, Amersham Market - every Tues; Hemel Hempstead market - every Thursday, High Wycombe market - every Friday & Saturday. (imp, back, merch, gn, STO). 01442 250653

■ **Universal Comics**, *now at:* 49D Herschel Street, Slough. Mon-Sat 9.30-6.30 (imp, back, merch, ind, gn, STO) 01753 571 799

■ **Universal Comics**, 16 London Road, Staines. Mon-Fri 10.30-6.30, Sat 10-6.30 (imp, back, ind, merch, gn, STO) 01784 460300

■ **Whatever Comics**, 2 Burgate Lane, Canterbury, Kent CT1 2HH. Mon - Sat 10.00 - 5.30 (imp, back, s-p, merch, ind, Brit, u/g, gn, STO, model kits) 01227 453226

■ **Whatever Comics**, 5 Middle Row, High Street, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1TF. Mon-Sat 10.00-5.30 (imp, back, s-p, merch, ind, Brit, u/g, gn, STO, model kits) 01622 681041

■ **Wonderworld**, 133 St Mary Street, Southampton S01 1NX. Tues-Sat 10-6 (imp, back, merch, ind, Brit, gn, STO, FRPG & miniatures) 01703 634658

## MIDLANDS

■ **A Collectors Dream**, 16 Park St., Kingswinford DY6 9LX, West Midlands. Mon-Sat 9.30-5.30 (imp back s-p merch ind Brit u/g gn STO film/tv fantasy glamour horror ppbks toys videos. Buy-sell-exchange) 01384 287234

■ **Abstract Sprocket**, St Benedicts Indoor Market, 21 St Benedicts St, Norwich, Norfolk NR2 4PF. Mon-Sat 10-5 (imp, back, ind, s-p, merch, Brit, u/g, gn, STO) 01603 667700

■ **Another World**, 23 Silver Street, Leicester LE1 5EU. Mon - Sat 9.00 - 5.30 (imp, back, ind, merch, Brit, frgn, u/g, gn, STO, RPG, rock t-shirts, alchemy metalware, rock memorabilia) 0116 2515266

■ **Another World**, 11 Market Street, Nottingham. Mon-Sat 10-5.30 (imp, back, s-p, merch, ind, Brit, frgn, u/g, gn, STO, RPG, rock t-shirts, alchemy metalware, rock memorabilia) 0115 9484122

■ **Arrival Comics & Books**, 2 Broad Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1HP. Mon-Sat 9.30-5.30 (imp, back, s-p, ind, Brit) 01902-313 660

■ **Comics Unlimited**, 4 Clair Court, Lime Street, Bedford MK40 1NH. Mon - Sat 9.30 - 5.30. (imp, back, s-p, merch, ind, gn, Brit, u/g, STO, RPG) 01234 218984

■ **Comics Unlimited**, 26 Town Centre, Hatfield, Herts AL10 0LD. Wed-Mon 9.30-5.30 (imp, back, s-p, merch, ind, Brit, gn, STO, RPG) 01707 256788

■ **Comics Unlimited**, Unit 11, The Arcade, Letchworth, Hertfordshire. Mon - Sat 9.30 - 5.30. (imp, back, s-p, merch, ind, gn, Brit, u/g, STO, RPG) 01462 480018

■ **Fantasy World**, 10 Market Square Arcade, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent ST1 1NU. Mon-Sat 9-5.30 (imp, back, s-p, merch, ind, Brit, frgn, u/g, gn, STO, RPG, rock t-shirts, alchemy metalware, rock memorabilia) 01782 279294/fax 01782 202381

■ **The Final Frontier**, 29 St Nicholas Place, Leicester LE1 4LD. Mon-Sat 9-5. (imp, back, ind, Brit, gn, STO) Estab 1984 0116 251 4347

■ **Forbidden Planet**, 31 Cross Cheaping, Coventry CV1 1HF. Mon-Sat 9.30-6.00; Thurs till 7.00 (imp, back, merch, ind, Brit, u/g, gn, STO, film/ tv material, sf/horror bks; CCG, RPG) 01203 229672

■ **Forbidden Planet**, 129 Middle Walk, Broadmarsh Centre, Nottingham NG1 7LN. Mon-Sat 9-6 (imp, back, s-p, merch, ind, Brit, u/g, gn, film/tv, videos, STO) 0115 958 4706

■ **Ground Zero**, 11 Handley Arcade, Mansfield, Notts NG18 1NQ. Mon - Sat 9.00 - 5.00 (imp, back, merch, ind, Brit, STO, accessories) 01623 22017

■ **Julian's Books & Comics**, Unit 2 Vine Court, 7 Vine St, Evesham, Worcs WR11 4RW. Mon-Sat 10-5.30 (discout back issues, gn, sf/horror bks, gen fiction, RPG) 01386 423848

■ **Nostalgia & Comics**, 14-16 Smallbrook, Queensway, Birmingham. Mon - Thurs 9.15 - 5.45, Fri + Sat 9.15 - 6.00 (imp, back, merch, gn, ind, s-p, u/g, Brit, STO) 0121 643 0143

■ **Nowhere Comics**, 3 Kings Court, Bridge St (next to Bridge St Records) Walsall. Mon-Sat 9.00-5.30 (imp, back, s-p, merch, ind, u/g, gn, STO, frgn, accessories) 01922 643352

■ **Nowhere Comics Elsewhere**, Crown Centre (next to library), Stourbridge town centre. Mon-Sat 9.00-5.30, (imp, back, s-p, merch, ind, u/g, gn, STO, frgn, accessories) 01384 370536

■ **Page 45**, 9 Market Street, Nottingham NG1 6HY. Mon-Sat 9-6. (imp, back, s-p, ind, Brit, frgn, u/g, gn, STO, indie comix & indie merch specialists, manga) 0115 9508045

■ **Phoenix Comix**, 43 Kettering Road, Northampton. Mon-Sat 9.30-5.00 (imp, back, merch, ind, gn STO) 01604 602311

■ **Time Zone**, 12 Fish Street (off Butcher Row), Shrewsbury, Shropshire SY1 1UR. Mon - Sat 10.00 - 6.00. (imp, back, merch, ind, gn, STO, CCG) 01743 365192

## NORTH WEST

■ **Comic Zone**, 4 Church Rd, Northwich, Cheshire CW9 5NT (imp, back, merch, ind, gn, STO, RPG, Brit) 01606 49255

■ **Forbidden Planet**, 92 Bold St, Liverpool L1 4HR. Mon-Sat 9.30-5.30; Thur to 7.00 (imp, back merch, ind, Brit, u/g, STO, film/tv material, sf & horror bks, RPG, CCG) 0151 707 1491

■ **Imagination Station**, 16 Botchergate, Carlisle, Cumbria CA1 1QS. Mon-Sat 9.30-5 (imp, back, merch, ind, Brit, gn, STO)

■ **Planet Eater**, 3 Union Street Southport, Lancs PR9 0QF. Mon & Wed 10-5.30 (closed Tues) Thur-Sat: 9-5.30; Sun: 12-4 (imp, back, merch, model kits, Trek, action figures, STO) 01704 548629

■ **Space Odyssey Megastore**, 65 Oldham St, Piccadilly, Manchester M1 1JR. Mon-Sat 9.30-5.30 (imp, back, sf-fantasy bks, cards, posters, badges, stills, LF film bks, Trek, Dr Who, etc) 0161 839 4777

■ **Thunderbooks**, 332 Lytham Rd, Blackpool FY4 1DW. 10-5.30 Mon-Tues Thurs-Sat (& Sundays June-Oct inc.); Wed 1.00-3.30 (imp, back, merch, ind, Brit, gn, STO, media collectors' items) 01253-348321 fax: 407813

■ **Thunderbooks II**, 116 Friargate, Preston, PR1 9EE. Mon-Sat 10-5.30 (imp, back, merch, s-p, ind, Brit, gn, STO, RPG) 01772-204287

■ **Time Zone**, 3 Academy Place, Warrington, Cheshire WA1 2NR. Mon-Sat 10-6 (imp, back, merch, ind, gn, STO, CCG) 01925 651185

■ **Worlds Apart**, 58-60 Lime St (city centre), Liverpool. Mon-Sat 10-6 excl Fri 10-7 (imp, back, ind, merch, s-p, u/g, Brit, gn, STO, fantasy film mags) 0151 707 0839

## NORTH EAST

■ **Beyond Reality Comics**, 183 Frodingham Rd., Scunthorpe, S Humberside DN15 7NH. Mon+Wed-Sat 11-5; Sun 12-5 (imp, back, merch, ind, gn, STO, RPG, sci-fi, CCG) 01724 276267

■ **Books N' Comics**, Unit 15, Forbes Building, Linthorpe Road, Middlesborough, Cleveland TS1 4AW. Mon-Sat 10-5.30 (imp, back, s-p, merch, ind, u/g, gn, STO, fantasy gn, film mags, Dr Who, Trek) 01642 249143

NEW **Comic Carnage**, 22 Portland St., Lincoln LN5 7JX Mon-Fri (excl Wed) 10-4; Sat 9.30-5.30 (imp, back, merch, ind, gn, STO) 01522 520087

■ **Comicville**, Ground Floor, 54 The Arcade, The Piece Hall, Halifax HX1 1RE, Yorkshire. Tues-Fri 9.30-5; Sat 10-5 Sun 11-5 (imp, back, ind, merch, Brit, u/g, gn, STO, model kits, toys, Who, Trek, videos) 01422 351119

■ **Comicville**, 24 Imperial Arcade, Huddersfield HD1 2BR. Mon-Sat 9.30-5.30 (imp, back, ind, merch, gn, STO, RPG, models, Star Wars, videos) 01484 455044

■ **Dells Comic Shop**, 5 Duke St, Bradford 1, Yorks. Mon-Sat 9-5 excl Wed 9-3 (imp, back, merch, ind, gn, STO, horror masks, tv fantasy mags) 01274 770 541

■ **Forbidden Planet**, 59 Grainger St., Newcastle NE1 5JE. Mon-Sat 10-6 (imp, back, s-p, merch, ind, Brit, u/g, gn, STO, film/tv mags, fantasy/sf bks, videos) 0191 261 9173

■ **Forbidden Planet**, 12 Matilda, off the Moor, Sheffield, Yorks. Mon-Fri 10-6; Sat 9.15-5.30 (imp, back, s-p, merch, ind, Brit, u/g, gn, original art, model kits, sf & fantasy gns, horror mags, newspaper strip bks) 0114 276 9475

■ **Galaxy 4**, 493 Glossop Road, Broomhill, Sheffield S10 2QE. Mon-Sat 10-5 (imp, back, sp, merch, ind, gn, STO, Dr Who & Star Wars specialists, tv ppbks) 0114 268 4976

■ **The Last Picture Show**, 38-39 The Lanes, The Oasis, Meadowhall Centre, Sheffield S9 1EP. Mon-Thurs 10-8, Fri 10-9, Sat 9-7, Sun 11-5. (imp, back, merch, ind, Brit, gn, STO, RPG, CCG, film/tv/rock memorabilia) 0114 256 9604/ fax 0114 255 3399

■ **Off-World Comics**, 200 Park View, Whitley Bay, Tyne & Wear NE26 3QP. Mon-Thu 10-5.30; Fri 10-6; Sat 10-5.30 (imp, back, merch, ind, Brit, gn, STO, CCG) 0191 251 2288

■ **Sheffield Space Centre**, 33 The Wicker, Sheffield, Yorks. Mon - Sat 10.00 - 5.00 excl Wed. (imp, back, s-p, merch, ind, gn, STO, Star Trek items) 0114 275 8905

■ **Space Odyssey**, 30 Eastgate, The Headrow, Leeds LS2 7JL. Mon-Sat 9.30-5.30 (imp, back, LF film books, media-tv-film mags, T-shirts, posters, toys, kits, cards, badges, stills, Trek, Dr Who, etc) 0113 242 6325

■ **Travelling Man**, 23 Headingley Lane, Hyde Park Corner, Headingley, Leeds LS6 1BL. Mon-Sat 10.30-5.45 (imp, back, merch, ind, gn, STO, RPG, CCG) 0113 278 0417

■ **Travelling Man**, Unit 8/9 The Corn Exchange, Call Lane, Leeds LS1 7BR. Mon-Thurs 10-5.30, Fri-Sat 9-5.30, Sun 11-5 (imp, back, merch, ind, gn, STO, RPG, CCG) 0113 242 7227

■ **Travelling Man**, 54 Goodramgate, York YO1 2LF. Mon-Sat 10-5.30 (imp, back, merch, ind, gn, STO, RPG, CCG) 01904 628787

## WEST COUNTRY

■ **American Dream Comics**, Unit 2, 17 Pickwick Road, Corsham, Wilts SN13 9BQ. Mon-Thurs 10-5, Fri & Sat 9-6. (imp, back, s-p, merch, ind, u/g, gn, STO, original art, hobby kits, CDs) 01249 701647

■ **Floppy Tongue Comics**, 96 Fisherton Street, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP2 7QY. Mon-Fri 11.30-5.30; Sat 9-5.30 (imp, back, s-p, merch, ind, u/g, gn, STO) 01722 331107

■ **Forbidden Planet**, 30 Penn St., Bristol BS1 3AS. Mon-Fri 9.30-5.30 (Thurs till 7.00), Sat 9.30-6 (imp, back, s-p, merch, ind, Brit, u/g, gn, film & tv, videos, STO, sub-culture & body art) 0117 929 8692

■ **Forever People**, 35 Park Street, Bristol BS1 5NH. Mon-Sat 10.00-6.00 (imp, back, s-p, merch, ind, Brit, u/g, gn, STO, sf/fantasy new & 2nd hand bks, RPG, videos, tv sf memorabilia, sub-culture, body art) 0117 926 5454

■ **Kathies Comics**, 20 Market Avenue, Plymouth, PL1 1PH. Mon - Fri 9.30 - 5.30; Sat 9.00 - 5.30. (imp, back, s-p, merch, ind, Brit, gn, STO) 01752 257800

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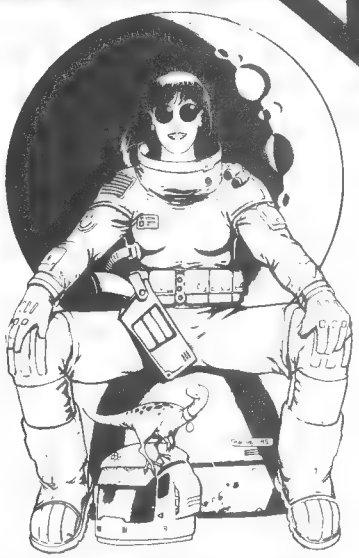

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# COMMENT

*Comment is a forum to enable fans and professionals alike to express their personal points of view on aspects of the comics industry.*

*As such, the opinions following do not necessarily reflect those of this publication, but space will be given in subsequent issues to well-reasoned opposing views. Editing of accepted manuscripts will be done only as a matter of grammar, clarity and space considerations. though brevity is recommended*

## Nottingham's Page 45: a role model for comic shops?

*Comment by Paul Cranfield, Milton Keynes*

RE: the January *Comment* and *Letters* pages, there seems an almost holy reverence towards the comics shop Page 45.

Now, I have never been to the shop, and my few visits to Nottingham have not been among life's highpoints, but I do feel that the views expressed as to the independent focus being the way forward for comics shops is hardly a realistic scenario to pursue.

It is true, I am sure, that the shop has developed a deserved reputation for championing the cause of off-the-wall indie titles, but to suggest that such fare would attract a larger audience countrywide strikes me as nothing short of naive.

I believe it must have been at a comic convention some 15 years ago that our very own champion of radical thought, Alan Moore, was espousing the imminent demise of the comic as we knew it in favour of a more widely acceptable European style graphic album. While some headway has been made in this area, it is modest at best.

So, to suggest that the bog standard punter in the street will be more interested in going into a shop displaying **Beanworld, Bone** and **Cerebus** than little Johnny will if his Saturday morning characters are on display does not hold water.

If we regard the pursuit of obscure indies as a form of fetish, an analogy can then be drawn to a more obvious form of same. There are, I am told(!), a small number of shops across the country who provide rubber gear, S&M material, etc.

Having an open day with a special guest appearance by a descendant of the Marquis De Sade proving to be a crowd puller is no argument for setting up such a shop in every town.

In the same way, the limited market for these obscure titles will support a few well-stocked and well managed outlets because anyone having a particular need knows where to go, but the argument cannot be taken further.

On the point of the shop's layout, I agree that a little flair in presentation in most outlets would help, but floor space is not cheap, particularly in town centre locations, and maximising benefit can often seem to equate to overcrowded aisles and randomly strewn boxes. This environment is hardly welcoming for the casual browser, although for the aficionado back issue boxes are a Pandora's box of possibilities.

So, location and perceived market should dictate the store layout, and we should not assume that all collectors want to visit a comics supermarket. Some of us remember with affection the original *Dark They Were And Golden Eyed* in Soho, and damp and rat poison aside I can still remember the thrill of stepping through that door and spending the next hour or so in a state of mild euphoria.

Where has it all gone?

## Survival in a one-horse town

*Comment by Mike Conroy, Erith, Kent*

THE news I've heard is that Heroes World (Marvel International Distribution or whatever) is being closed down and that Marvel comics will, once again, be available through Diamond Comic Distributors.

If that's correct, *all* publishers *must* consider how best to get out of the exclusivity aspect of

their contracts with Diamond.

Not only is exclusivity an irrelevance given that Diamond dominates the market by virtue of being the only player left standing but Diamond's monopoly plus exclusivity bodes ill for the future of the market.

Now that Diamond is the only game in town, it never need worry about any potential or future competition. With it having (at the very least) Acclaim, Dark Horse, DC and Image tied into exclusive contracts everything is loaded in its favour.

If Marvel has "gone exclusive" as well, why should Diamond ever have cause for concern? No other company could become a worthy alternative because any potential competitor wouldn't be playing on a level playing field.

Monopolies are a cause for concern whatever the industry involved but even publishers should now be worried because they have put the future of the entire industry in one company's hands.

If a new company (with the potential to be another Image) were to emerge in 1997 and Diamond didn't like the product (or whatever), what chance would such a publisher have?

If it's not distributed by Diamond, why should anybody bother with it? How could anyone - viably - obtain its output?

I'm not saying Diamond is anything other than honourable but it's holding all the cards. There's plenty of scope for abuse, retailer discounts cut, minimum orders raised, bigger discounts demanded from publishers, "unsatisfactory" lines (or publishers) cut, etc.

Just remember the old adage: power corrupts - absolute power corrupts absolutely!

It's worth bearing one from the Sixties in mind as well: just because you're paranoid, it doesn't mean they're not out to get you'.

## Looking for ways to tackle the problem

*Comment by Kit Ralunt, Tuckingmill, Cornwall*

WE all know the problems arising from Marvel's bankruptcy - we've all heard the doomsayers, the pessimists who delight in telling everybody - especially the public at large - in what bad shape the industry is: how there's no point in reading comics because the industry will implode in a few yews.

It's depressing to read this, particularly when it comes from the very people who make a living off the back of our industry.

Several occurrences conspired to bankrupt Marvel; it was as much its fault as the decline of sales overall (purchasing Malibu, expansion etc) and now Marvel is in yet another of its low patches, just like the Fifties and the Seventies. And so, instead of worrying about a comics industry apocalypse, we should be looking at differing ways of tackling the problem. Comics are primarily associated with funny animals and superheroes, and nought else; ask the average person in the street for two comic characters and they're likely to retort with Donald Duck and Superman. A few may mention Peanuts or Daredevil. But hardly any will mention Sandman, or Cerebus, or Watchmen (unless you're foolish enough to collar somebody walking outside a comic shop).

And the industry is giving them what they expect: masses and masses of spandex jockeys, replete with powers, and not much else. Even in the pages of **Comics International** we find an attitude of disdain to people who read Vertigo or **Cerebus.** Surely, as readers, we should not be indulging in such practices? It strikes me as somewhat foolish to be bickering amongst ourselves when we all should be joining together and looking forward. As comics readers, we find ourselves reading primarily superheroes, because there isn't much else about.

Not that that's bad - I personally read four such titles - but I have had the good fortune to have read other works of note, like **Sandman**, like

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**Cerebus**, like **Preacher**. And if only comics would expand to cater for every minority taste, for readers of things other than superheroes, then perhaps the industry would boom like it did so long ago.

We have Vertigo; it's a small and stable start, with some fine and literate creators, and it tries its hardest (frequently succeeding) to transcend the usual preconceptions of a comic book. We've had **Sandman**, **Hellblazer** et al, a small society of some of the greatest comics today exist within Vertigo.

But it's not really expanding, and therein lies the problem. I believe there is a feeling amongst superhero fans that Vertigo is something subversive, arty and threatening, as if Karen Berger and friends are waiting behind some literal corner to pounce. And so less people read Vertigo.

And then we have the world of the independents, where every comic is different, arguably ground-breaking where honesty is everything and that's the way things should be. Probably not, but that's how most independents creators view the independents. "Diversity is all," as they say. And therein lies a second fault; the independents have their readers, a base that would certainly grow, because diversity is all.

If the movie industry was nothing but action films, no one would go to the cinema. If the music industry was nothing but teeny shite, that too would fall. If the independents were given the correct funding and help, it would benefit everything.

And therein lies a third problem; none of the big two (I momentarily hesitated and almost said 'big three' but Image is thankfully sheltering some indies) will do it. They can't stand the "creators' rights" banner that the indies wave, despite Vertigo, which exists almost exclusively of creator-owned series.

And so, if Marvel wants to stay alive, perhaps it should look to sheltering indies. Just imagine how powerful our industry could be if Marvel put its name to some diversity; if these industry-savers actually found their way to the shelves, were available, had a decent print-run, were cheaper etc. We could finally have an industry no longer in permanent debt, no longer screaming bankruptcy.

There would always be room for the superhero - it is probable sales would rise on popular titles as witnessed at Nottingham's Page 45 - and Superman and Batman would need no gimmicks.

Digressing, don't you think it odd that the most popular superhero titles are those that rely on something more mainstream than superheroics?

**X-Men**, for example, is essentially a soap-opera; **Spawn** is a supernatural crime tale; **Gen13** is a *Melrose Place*-style story of teenage problems, etc. So you see, diversity has crept in, and will continue to aid the industry in subtle ways until the Movers and Shakers realise it's their best chance for long-term expansion.

Until that event occurs, the same old same old will be trotted out, and the same old same old whiners and whingers will say their doom.

Like I said, I read superhero titles; I'm not calling for people to bum their **X-Men**. All this industry needs is a little help to get back on its feet, and I believe modification will return our beleaguered medium to what it once was, sales wise.

# Nottingham's Page 45: a role model for comic shops?

***Comment by Neil McOnie, Wellingborough, Northants***

I'M SORRY but I've got to disgree with Andy Roberts' comment in **CI** #76. He comes across as another altruist with all the answers to comics retailing ills, but like so many before him he has little grasp of reality.

I've got a bit of experience with comic shops, I worked for **Comics International**'s Phil Hall at his Squonk Comic Shop for three years and, while at university, my usual haunt was Colin Gould's Planet Eater. During my time at Squonk, Phil attempted to stock a diversity of comics and product that would attract the general public. And he actually succeeded!

Yet instead of buying all the groovy alternative stuff, they were attracted by window displays

featuring traditional superheroes.

Normal people attracted to bright colours and vaguely familiar images from their childhood. Funny, that.

You couldn't wish to find a more user friendly and well layed out shop than Planet Eater, yet Colin has moved from the larger premises next door, to a smaller one, purely for economic reasons.

Need I remind Andy superhero comics represent the vast majority of comic sales? Need I also remind him that Page 45, however wonderful and mould-breaking, is situated ***right next door*** to Another World, a comic shop that specialises in superheroes and has little time for indies!

From my experience working behind tills, the superhero fan will spend a considerable amount more than the indie fan. Also, regardless of how many superhero fans grow disenchanted with comics and leave, there is always someone to step in and take their place. An indie fan will normally buy one or two comics, so therefore, from a retailer's point of view, he needs a bunch of indie readers for every superhero fan. So, he has an uphill struggle almost immediately.

And what about this one, Andy? Most people Phil had on his standing order list were superhero fans. It's really difficult to get an indie fan to commit to a standing order. Because, by the nature of the beast, they are ephemeral fans, and don't want to be obligated to a regular thing.

How can you seriously order books knowing that Mr Ephemeral Customer *might* just deem you worthy of a visit, when he's just as likely to pick up his **Cerebus** from any handy comic shop. These are members of the general public, not ex-superhero fans unable to kick their collecting habit.

Phil had an entire wall of indies, but even though he dedicated more room than was viable to them, sales actually dropped! When he merged them with all the other stuff sales picked up!

But we're just talking about finnicky comic fans. If you really want to attract Joe Public into a comic shop, you have to be a little more pragmatic than just having **Beanworld** in the window.

I'd hazard a guess and say one of the main reasons comic shops are struggling to attract Joe Public is the appearance of the shop itself... and its staff. This is, of course, one of the Catch-22 situations of the industry: running a comic shop is a hand-to-mouth existence. Most comic shop owners set out because they love comics, not because they believed they were going to make it rich.

Most newcomers to comics retailing have an earnest belief that when things pick up they are going to make their shop look really swish. Of course, that never happens. If all the future retailers went into the business with more start-up money, then perhaps things would be a little better.

But this is highly unlikely as any one with any sense would not want to enter into such a problematic industry.

If comic shop owners tidied themselves and their shops up, then part of the problem would be solved. Comic shop regulars love the dark and mysterious but Joe P expects Boots, John Lewis's or Sainsbury's.

Grottos, and that's what most comic shops are, went out with flairs and the Bay City Rollers. When you go looking for a pair of jeans at John Lewis or somesuch, you don't want to hear the history of denim since 1888 from the assistant — however interesting it might be. You just want to buy a pair of jeans, cheap.

But the point is that comic shops need to be well presented, they need assistants who are smart, attentive and knowledgeable (to the point of helpful, rather than boring) about what they are selling and what they might be able to get for the potential customer.

The last thing any retailer needs is a shop where the customer feels he has to wipe his feet and wash his hands on the way out.

When a lot of comic shop owners realise they are running a business rather than subsidising their comics habit, then perhaps we'll have comic shops that you'd let your grandmother loose in.

I can understand why Andy wanted to make his points. There's nothing worse than hearing stories of retailers, good ones at that, going out of business. But I doubt if turning themselves into clones of Page 45 is going to solve any of their problems.

If people are going to make bright suggestions about how they'd solve the comics retailing crisis in this country, I do wish they'd think about what they're saying before they come on so incredibly self-righteous.


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COMICS ECONOMICS

*Sales figures from publishers and distributors do not reflect actual sales to the public, being based on orders placed by retailers, who can fail to spot trends, or easily overstock. But they do give an indication as to the movement in the market.*

# Combined top sellers: Dec '96

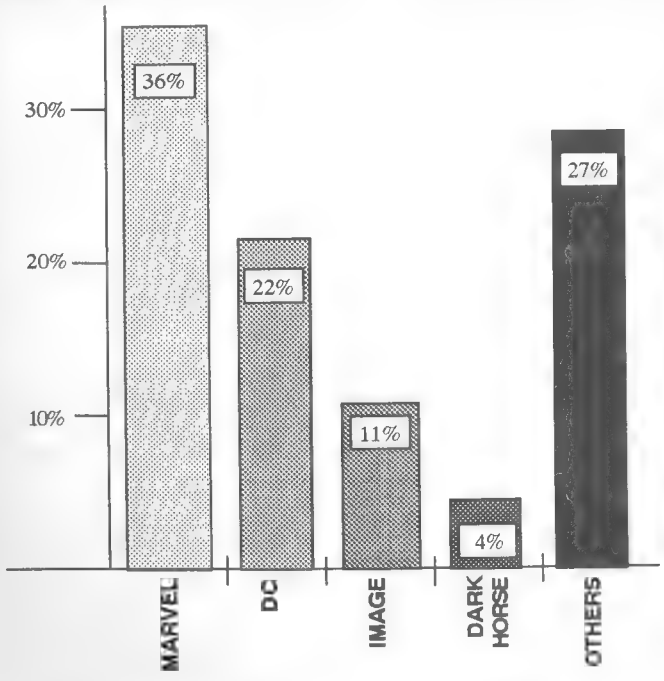
# Top 50 US comics sales

This listing details the retail trade's top 50 comics purchases as reported by Marvel's Heroes World Distributors. It is assessed by an independent market research company, contracted by Marvel Comics, and uses Marvel and Image comics sales as a yardstick for other publishers.

| Rank | Title & Price | Publisher |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | **Uncanny X-Men #341 ($1.95)** | **Marvel** |
| 2 | **X-Men #61 ($1.95)** | **Marvel** |
| 3 | **Wolverine #110 ($1.95)** | **Marvel** |
| 4 | **Spawn #57 ($1.95)** | **Image** |
| 5 | **Fantastic Four #4 ($1.95)** | **Marvel** |
| 6 | **Curse of the Spawn #4 ($1.95)** | **Image** |
| 7 | **Iron Man #4 ($1.95)** | **Marvel** |
| 8 | **Spawn the Impaler #3 ($2.95)** | **Image** |
| 9 | **Generation X #24 ($1.95)** | **Marvel** |
| 10 | ***Onslaught* Epilogue ($2.95)** | **Marvel** |
| 11 | The Avengers #4 ($1.95) | Marvel |
| 12 | X-Man #24 ($1.95) | Marvel |
| 13 | Captain America #4 ($1.95) | Marvel |
| 14 | Gen[13] #16 ($2.50) | Image |
| 15 | X-Force #63 ($1.95) | Marvel |
| 16 | X-Factor #131 ($1.95) | Marvel |
| 17 | Cable #40 ($1.95) | Marvel |
| 18 | Magneto #4 ($1.95) | Marvel |
| 19 | Amazing Spider-Man #420 ($1.50) | Marvel |
| 20 | Gen[13] Bootleg #2 ($2.50) | Image |
| 21 | DC/Marvel: All Access #4 ($1.95) | DC |
| 22 | Excalibur #106 ($1.95) | Marvel |
| 23 | Incredible Hulk #450 ($2.95) | Marvel |
| 24 | Deadpool #2 ($1.95) | Marvel |
| 25 | Spider-Man #77 ($1.95) | Marvel |
| 26 | JLA #2 ($1.95) | DC |
| 27 | Spectacular Spider-Man #243 ($1.50) | Marvel |
| 28 | X.S.E. #4 ($1.95) | Marvel |
| 29 | Sensational Spider-Man #13 ($1.95) | Marvel |
| 30 | *Ballistic/Wolverine* ($2.95) | Top Cow |
| 31 | Mystique & Sabretooth #3 ($1.95) | Marvel |
| 32 | The Darkness #2 ($2.25) | Top Cow |
| 33 | *Tales of the Age of Apocalypse* ($5.95) | Marvel |
| 34 | Domino #2 ($1.95) | Marvel |
| 35 | X-Files #25 ($2.95) | Topps |
| 36 | Batman #539 ($1.95) | DC |
| 37 | Dawn #5 ($2.95) | Sirius |
| 38 | *Daredevil/Shi* ($2.95) | Marvel |
| 39 | *Weapon Zero/Silver Surfer* ($2.95) | Top Cow |
| 40 | Supergirl #6 ($1.95) | DC |
| 41 | *Shi/Daredevil* ($1.95) | Crusade |
| 42 | *Ghost Rider/Cyblade* ($2.95) | Marvel |
| 43 | Detective Comics #706 ($1.95) | DC |
| 44 | Lady Death: The Crucible ($2.95) | Chaos |
| 45 | Elektra #4 ($1.95) | Marvel |
| 46 | Superman #120 ($1.95) | DC |
| 47 | *Ghost Rider/Ballistic* ($2.95) | Marvel |
| 48 | *Logan: Shadow Society* ($5.95) | Marvel |
| 49 | *Catwoman/Vampirella: Furies* ($4.95) | DC |
| 50 | *Gen[13]: Zine #1* ($1.95) | Image |

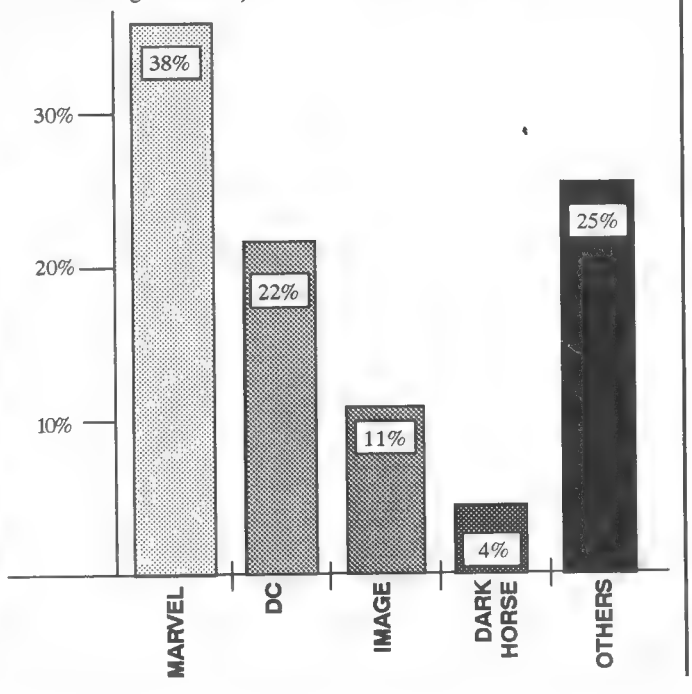
## Dollar Market Share December 1996

Dollar market share is the combined total of product released by a publisher in terms of the retail price. The percentage is reached by adding all of a publisher's titles' cover prices together, of which Marvel represents 36% of the total dollar outlay for December (eg: for every $100 spent, $36 dollars represents Marvel's product). *Figures supplied by Marvel*




## Unit Market Share December 1996

Unit market share is the combined total of product released by a publisher. The percentage is reached by adding all of a publisher's monthly releases together, of which Marvel represents 38% of the total units released for December (eg: Marvel has 38 of every 100 titles released during December). *Figures supplied by Marvel.*



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# q & a

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## DC secrets

**Wolf Klewe, 9 Cossack Lane Winchester, Hants**

**Q** I AM still having trouble with the order of *Knightquest*. No response to the published *Q&A*. I also wrote to DC, whinging about crossovers in general and this one in particular, and have had not had a reply.

Now another one has come up: *Secret of the Universe* is a three-part story, with part two in **Catwoman** #26 and part three in **Shadow of the Bat** #44. Where did it start?

**A** *__Catwoman__ #26 did cross over with __Shadow of the Bat__ #44, both featuring Batman, Catman and the Catwoman up against the Ratcatcher. The first part of this story was in __Shadow of the Bat__ #43 (by Alan Grant and Barry Kitson).* ...Dez Skinn

## Glory hallelujah!

**Ian Neve, Hillcrest Crocken Hill, Egerton, Nr Ashford, Kent TN27 9EG**

**Q** COULD you please answer two questions regarding the Rob Liefeld Glory character?

(i) **Avengelyne/Glory: The Godessey** is a one-shot. Yet, at the end it continues! Where?

(ii) **Glory/Celestine** is a three-issue mini. But it continues at the end of the third issue. Where?

**A** *Confession time: we're better on DC than Maximum Press. Over to any Glory-boys (or girls) out there on this one. But it does raise a fair point: The idea of one-shots, annuals, books and mini-series is surely that the reader can get the full story without worrying about the story so far or the next issue(s).*

*Many US publishers seem to have lost sight of this fact, providing another nail in their titles' coffins as disenchanted readers drop the books.* ...Dez

## Super sperm

**Q** Is the new Superman revamp and Clark Kent losing his powers just a cunning ploy to allow the newlyweds to consummate their marriage without severe physical injury to Lois, or am I maybe reading too much into it?

**A** *This is the very theory I (foolishly?) went on record stating, in a recent ITV programme (Shift, 6/2, repeated 7/2!). But then, I have a habit of sticking my neck out. I also threw in that Lois may not survive the year, that a Supertot would be born, and that Kal-El's original powers and costume would also return.*

*I even managed to get in the anecdote about if Clark was not disempowered when they consummated the marriage, Lois would end up in pieces and millions of super-sperm would be flying around the planet looking for eggs to fertilise!*

*But, judging by the Lois & Clark TV series, where he still has his original powers (full time), they've already done said deed without mishap!* ...Dez

## Chaykin's Blackhawk

**Stephen Fenwick 11 Promenade, Barrow, Cumbria**

**Q** CAN you tell me what work Howard Chaykin did on DC's **Blackhawk**?

**A** *Obviously attracted by the black leather uniforms, Chaykin produced the "suggested for mature readers" revamp mini-series in 1988. It ran for three 48 pages prestige format issues, and led into the team's (Chaykin-less) appearance across most issues of __Action Comics Weekly__.* ...Dez

## Man-Thing songs

**M. C. Mackintosh Dartford, Kent**

**Q** CAN someone *please* put me out of my misery?

I recall a story featuring Marvel's Man-Thing that finished with a page quoting from Kris Kristofferson's *Me and Bobby McGee*: "Freedom's just another word for nothing left to lose."

I had the opportunity to ask who I remembered the author of the story to be, Steve Gerber, about this. But he told me there was no way he would quote Kristofferson!

So, if it wasn't Gerber, who was it? Which title and issue?

**A** *I'd tend to trust ol' "Baby" Gerber on this one! After a quick skim, I couldn't find any Kristofferson reference. But maybe I should have looked at a __Giant-Sized Man-Thing__ (fnar, fnar!).* ...Dez

## Avery collection?

**Hakan Fredriksson, Hove**

**Q** ARE there any good — or any at all — video collections with Tex Avery films available in the UK?

**A** *Not too sure what this is doing in a comics Q&A. But maybe one of our readers can reply next issue, Hakan.*

## Marvel UK trio

**Kieron Mullens, Totterdown Bristol**

**Q** THREE straightforward Marvel UK questions:

1) How many issues did **Star Wars: Return of the Jedi** run to?

2) I remember seeing an ad for **Monster Monthly** around 1981/82, featuring Werewolf by Night and Tigra. Did this ever come out and how many issues were there?

3) What happened to all the "work in progress" lost during Marvel UK's implosion in 1993 (such as the **Red Mist 2020** series, etc.) and does anyone get paid when this happens?

**A** *1) __Star Wars: Return of the Jedi__ finished with issue #155 on 31st May, 1988 when it merged with __Spider-Man & Zoids__.*

*2) __Monster Monthly__ first appeared in the summer of 1982 and ran for, I believe, four issues.*

*3) Generally, when work is commissioned, that alone justifies payment, irrespective of it being published. While we can't speak for Marvel, back in the old __Warrior__ days, we paid people 30 days from invoice. In the case of some work (by Grant Morrison, John Ridgway and Will Simpson), it didn't appear in print for 12 years (in last year's __Warrior__ Spring Special).*

*If work is commissioned and, for some reason, then rejected, because the creator has done the work, he or she should be paid a "kill fee", usually around 50% of the going rate. This was the case with Grant & Ranson's Buttonman. It was commissioned by __Toxic__, which promptly ceased. A kill fee was paid, then it appeared in __2000AD__, was paid again, then in a Kitchen Sink graphic novel... and was paid again! So sometimes, you can come out ahead when work isn't (initially) published.*

*But that only works when you own the copyright.* ...Dez

## Obscure Aragones

**Stuart McDougal, Rotherhithe London SE16**

**Q** IN A recent **Comic Buyers Guide**, I saw a Sergio Aragones strip which apparently was advertising *Fonts* for sale and was called *Hip Flask's Silent Night* by Chris Francis and Sergio Aragones.

*Hip Flask: Private Hippopotamus* was created by Richard Alan, but can you tell me whether or not *Hip Flask* made it comics or is it just an ad?

Apart from **Mad, Groo, Plop** and **Mighty Magnor**, what else has Aragones drawn?

**A** *For the recently revived Platinum Editions (a co-production Bosnia's Strip Art Features and California's ex-Malibu head Scott Rosenberg) Aragones produced two large format albums: __Buzz and Bell: Space Cadets__ and __Smokehouse 5__.*

*As for the Hip Flask character: pass. Another one for next issue.*

## Breed III, anyone?

**Martyn Graves Kirkby-In-Ashfield, Notts**

**Q** WHAT'S Jim Starlin up to these days? I've been waiting for **Breed III**, the last six parts of the story to be released. Will it ever see the light of day?

**A** *The old rumour mill reported that Starlin was considering a move to Dark Horse's Legends imprint, but we've heard nothing of that particular story since before Christmas. With the end of Malibu and its Bravura line, it worked for Simonson (with __Starslammers__), so it would seem the likeliest home.*

## Milan shops

**Peter Galle, Bedford**

**Q** DOES anyone know the addresses of any specialist comic book shops in Milan (I'm working there during the summer) and do you have an address for Glittering Images?

**A** *While we've no personal experience of them, try the following:*

- *Borsa del Fumetto (via Lecco 16, 20124 Milano; tel 02/2951 3883)*
- *Comics & Games (via Giambellino 12, 20100 Milano)*
- *Fumetto Che Cerchi di Saverio (Piazza Bonola, 20151 Milano)*
- *Milano Fumetto/Kali Comics (via Volta 20, Milano)*
- *Mondo Fantastico (via Osoppo 13, 20149 Milano)*
- *Nipponya (via Muzio 1, ang. M. Gioia 77, 20124 Milano)*
- *Reggio Comics (via Emilia S. Petrio 65, 42100 Milano)*
- *Tutto Fumetto (via Salmini 4, Milano)*
- *Ultimate Art (via Lattuada 20, 20135 Milano)*
- *Yamato (via Lecco 2, Milano)*

*... with a list like that, you should have a great summer!*

*Glittering Images: sorry, no idea, Peter. But we managed one out of two for you!* ...Dez

## Pizzazz update

**Rob Kirby, Hitchin, Herts**

I'VE never managed to come

across any copies of Marvel's **Pizzazz** magazine. If anyone actually has a set or several issues, could they list the titles to the *Star Wars* stories in issues 11, 12, 14, 16 and 18 in particular, as well as for any of the other issues, as a check against the few titles I have confirmed.

## Heroes war

**Q** Having not yet located a copy of **Defenders** issue #8, does the issue end with a four-page prologue opening the Avengers/Defenders war, entitled *Chapter 1: Deception*?

## Marvel Index

**Willie Richards, Marston, Oxford**

**Q** CAN YOU give me any more details on Tiefenbacher and Klein's index, which has twice been mentioned in this column, as it sounds pretty nifty?

**A** *Mike Tiefenbacher, alongside the late Mark Gruenwald and John Sanderson, is probably best known as being one of the industry's greatest archivists. His career, often as G&T Enterprises, has spanned many comics index volumes. His original run of Marvel Index titles ended when he switched to producing them in episodic comics format for Marvel itself (under the title of* ***The Official Marvel Index to...*** *and covering The X-Men and The Avengers).*

*Mike also published a newspaper strip compilation,* ***The Menemonee Falls Gazette*** *and contributed whimsical "Whatever Happened to..." back-up strips for* ***DC Comics Presents****, as well as being an early contributor to Karen Berger's* ***New Talent Showcase*** *(DC; #4, 13)..Dez*

## Plunkett index

**Q** THE name of Sandy Plunkett came up recently. Although he's a great artist his name never seems to reach the Price Guides — any chance of a biography and index?

**A** *OK, career highlights follow:*
***Batman: Legends of the Dark Knight*** *#50 (DC)*
***Codename: Spitfire*** *#13 (Marvel)*
***Conan*** *#251 (Marvel)*
***Defenders*** *#53, 123, 124 132 (M)*
***Justice*** *#14 (Marvel)*
***Marvel Comics Presents*** *69-72 131*
***Marvel Fanfare*** *#6, 42, 58*
***Nightmask*** *#4, 9, 11 (Marvel)*
***Savage Sword of Conan*** *#188 (M)*
***Solo Avengers*** *#14, 19 (Marvel)*
***Spectre*** *#3 (1993, DC)*
***Unknown Soldier*** *#210 215 (DC)*
*...plus a ton of Marvel covers in the late '80s and early '90s, but I'm sure there's more! ...Dez*

## Spirit tribute

Do you know which issue of **Batman/Detective Comics** featured the Spirit tribute drawn by Don Newton? I think the story was called *Bad Night in Baja*. Also which issue of **Master of Kung Fu** did Dave Stevens work on?

**A** *The highly underrated late Don Newton began on Batman in* ***Detective*** *#483, the title's 40th anniversary issue, his final issue being #539. For* ***Batman****, he drew many issues between #305 and #378... which is really a long-winded way of admitting I don't know (but would very much like to) which issue of which title featured the Spirit tribute! I also have to admit surprise about any Dave Stevens work on Marvel's* ***Master of Kung Fu****. Anybody care to help? ...Dez*

## Spanish duo

**Ian Cairns, Coach Lane North Shields NE29**

**Q** DO YOU have any idea if the Spanish team of Jorge Zentner and Ruben Pellejero are still working in comics, either together or individually?

My last knowledge of them was the *Dieter Lumpen: Caribe* adventure in July 89's **Heavy Metal** (*Enemies in Common* appeared in the Nov 1990 issue, but that was an earlier work).

Could you possibly check, confirm or complete the mish mash bibliography I have:

*FRENCH:*

**Les Memoires de Mr Griffaton**
**F.M en Frequence Modulee**
**Ennemis Communs**

*SPANISH:*

**Cairo** - magazine
**Las Aventuras de Dieter Lumpen: Un Punal en Estambul; Juegos de Azan**; and **Bomba de Tiempo**

*ENGLISH:*

**Heavy Metal**: July 1989 (*Caribe*); November 1990 (*Enemies in Common*) and November 1989 (*The Dagger From Istanbul*).

I have a magazine from 1988 called **Aces**, published jointly by Acme Press and Eclipse International containing a reprint of *The Dagger of Istanbul*, the first Dieter Lumpen adventure. I found this by chance on a newsstand at the time and although it said "... to be continued" at the end of it, I've never been able to find later issues. Dealers at marts don't seem to bother with newsstand or none American comics.

I'm not up to date with **Heavy Metal** since Tundra took it over, so they may have appeared in a recent issue of that. I also heard a strange rumour that one of them had been doing some work for Marvel UK, any clues?

**A** *With Dave Elliott having had more than a passing connection with several of the Zentner and Pellejero strips, perhaps he, or other knowlegeable readers can help on this one. As for* ***Aces****, that was one of Dick* ***(Speakeasy)*** *Hanson's early titles, which suddenly disappeared at issue four, when the distributor went bankrupt leaving too many unpaid bills! ...Dez*

**Rob Kirby, 2 Bramshott Close, London Road Hitchin, Herts SG4 9EP**

What comic and issue does the above artwork appear in? All I know is that it's by Alex Saviuk and Derek Fisher and is signed and numbered as page 18.

It was a surprise gift I received for having a letter published in **Marvel Vision** magazine!

## Gon, but not forgotten

**Reubs Willmott, Ipswich**

**Q** COULD someone please tell me which issues of **Gon** (by Masashi Tanaka) and published by DC/Paradox *didn't* reprint material in the British Mandarin editions?

**A** *DC looks like continuing its Gon reprints so, as Mandarin didn't get beyond the first book, I'd suggest that in hope of a complete collection, you focus on the US rather than the UK version. But as our copy editor Kerry has snatched the office copies of both, I've no specific details to hand! ...Dez*

## Maneely's kid?

**David Morris, Totterdown.**

**Q** I BOUGHT a western reprint comic, **Ringo Kid** #4 (July 1970) as it had nifty art. Alas, no credits. I suspect Joe Maneely due to some of the textures, but I'm not at all sure. Who drew it?

**A** *Ah, yes. One of Maneely's best. If you wahnt to find more of his work, look for either the 5-issue 1950s* ***Black Knight*** *series (or reprints in* ***Fantasy Masterpieces****) or his* ***Speed Carter, Spaceman****. For a cheap Maneely, look for Marvel's* ***Jungle Action*** *1-3 (1972), which also reprinted some of his 1950s work. One of the greats, Joe had a unique style, often using fine outline for backgrounds and always getting excellent discrete (self?) colouring. ...Dez*

## Master of the Marsh

**Q** THERE used to be a strip called *Master of the Marsh* which ran in one of the IPC comics in the late '60s or early '70s. It was one of those strange fantasies about a bare-chested,

Q physically powerful, wild men, who is hired to instill discipline in a school — clearly a blueprint for contemporary educational policy.

Could you tell me where to find it and who drew it?

A *Worked for the company at the time, and I can't remember. The shame, the shame... Where's Steve Holland when you need him? I'll stick my neck out on it being Solano Lopez, now ensconced at Eros, and it was in either* **Lion** *or* **Valiant**. *Definitely early 1970s IPC/Fleetway, though. ...Dez*

## ANSWER UPDATES
or... New As for old Qs

## North & South

**David Jackson, Thornaby North Yorkshire**

A THANKS for running the mini-biog on me last issue. But regarding the piece (*Q&A*, **CI** #77): With you [Dez] being a born and bred southerner — south Yorkshire, wasn't it? — your difficulty in differentiating between us north easterners is understandable. But although you're right about Angus McKie, having no connection with Tyneside, I cannot claim allegiance to the illustrious tribe of Geordies.

But, while I'm here, is there any information or interview (in English, preferably) with the creators of **Lone Wolf and Cub**?

*Wey, aye, mon. But I dinna know wuhr (Hah! that should confuse him).*

## More Deadpool

**Paul O'Brien, prob@tattoo.ed.ac.uk**

A RE: Deadpool's origin (*Q&A* CI#77). It's certainly possible that Liefeld originally intended Deadpool to be a mutant, but he never got around to dealing with the character's back story.

It's got no more significance for continuity than what Louise Simonson wanted to do with Cable.

The origin story that Joe Kelly is working with comes from **Deadpool: The Circle Chase**, written by Fabian Nicieza. So if he ever did intend Deadpool to be a mutant, he obviously changed his mind.

## Gary Frank

**Reubs Willmott, Ipswich**

A GARY Frank's first comic strip was *The Crap Fairy* for **Toxic** #25 (which he pencilled, inked and coloured himself). He also painted a couple of covers for **Toxic**, too.

Incidentally, *The Crap Fairy* was written by a certain Gary Ushaw who wrote **Mobfire** for Vertigo, threatened to write **The Dreaming**, then vanished.

**Rob Kirby, Hitchin, Herts**

A NOMI Suhail wanted to know about Gary Frank's first Marvel work. By my listings, his first two strips appeared in 1991. *Seaside Rendezvous* was in **Doctor Who Summer Special 1991**, a five page strip written by Paul Cornell and inked by Stephen Baskerville.

The other was *United We Stand*, which was hidden inside the one-shot **HeroQuest Winter Special 1991**, an eight-page strip written by Ian Abbinett and Alan Cowsill, with inks by Cam Smith.

## McKean early work

**Reubs Willmott, Ipswich**

A Dave McKean did some strips for a small press anthology, when at college, called **Meanwhile**. Copies of which are impossible to find, I suspect.

He was next involved in an anthology called **Borderline** which never appeared. Then came **Violent Cases** for Escape, which *wasn't* serialised elsewhere beforehand. Before **Violent Cases**, McKean did some covers for Titan Books' **Judge Dredd** and **James Bond** reprints.

With Neil Gaiman writing, there was a strip for Knockabout's **Tales From the Old Testament** collection. McKean submitted a sample strip for **2000AD**, but surprisingly, the only work they gave him was an illo on the contents page of the 1987 **2000AD Sci Fi Special**!

Among his first work out of art college was illustrating Harry Harrison's book **You Are The Stainless Steel Rat**, as those role-playing books were all the rage back then. I'm not sure if it's still in print, though.

Much later, he did a touching piece in **Heartbreak Hotel** #6. Anyone remember that magazine? Definitely the forerunner to **Deadline**. He also produced a **Mr X** strip in **A1** #1, a **Mr X** cover to #2 and another painted strip in #3. He had a strip about jazz in the 4th issue of the American **A1**, incidentally.

Something impossible to find in Italy are back copies of the much missed **Ark** (produced by Paul Duncan); #23 has a **Mr X** painted cover, an interview with McKean, but more importantly his early work from **Borderline**, samples for DC, but **Ark** regularly used pieces of McKean's work.

**Judge Dredd** #30 features a lot of rarely seen McKean paintings and sketches.


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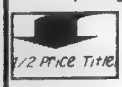


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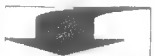

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33 vg+ ...23.50
Very Scarce Sub-Mariner Origin
34 vfn.....72.00
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35 vg+ ...19.95
1st App. Dragon Man
36 fn .....34.00
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37 fn+ ....28.95
38 fn- .....21.50
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39-40 fn- .....21.50
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41 fn- ....16.95
42 vg+ ...15.50
42 vfn ...29.50
43 vg+ ...15.50
44 fn- .....16.95
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47 vg+ ...15.50
3rd App. Inhumans
48 vg.... 180.00
1st App. Silver Surfer & Galactus
49 fn .....61.00
2nd App. of Silver Surfer
1st App. of Galactus
50 vg.....42.00
1st Wyatt Wingfoot 3rd App. Silver Surfer
51 vg+ ....9.50
1st app. Wyatt Wingfoot
52 vg.....17.50
1st App. Black Panther
53 vg+ ...16.50
2nd App. Black Panther
54 fn- .....9.75
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58 fn- .....10.95
Silver Surfer & Dr. Doom App.
59 vg+ ...10.50
Silver Surfer & Dr. Doom App.
60 fn .....13.50
Silver Surfer & Dr. Doom App.
61 fn- .....9.75
Surfer Cameo
62 fn- .....10.95
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63 fn .....11.50
63 vfn+ ...22.95
64 fn+ ....14.95
65 vg+ ...10.50
1st App. Kree, Ronan & Supreme Intelligence
67 fn- .....23.50
1st app. of Him (later Adam Warlock)
68 fn .....9.75
69 vg+ ....7.25
70 fn- .....7.95
71 vfn.....13.95
cover stain
72 vg+ ....8.75
Silver Surfer App.
76 vg+ ....7.25
Silver Surfer & Galactus app.
77 vfn- ....13.95
Silver Surfer & Galactus App.
78 vg+ ....6.25
81 vg+ .... 6.25
Crystal joins Fantastic Four
82 fn- ..... 6.75
84 fn- ..... 5.50
Dr. Doom-s
85 vg+ .... 5.25
85 fn+ ..... 7.50
Dr. Doom-s
86-87 vg+ .... 5.25
Dr. Doom-s
87 vfn- ..... 9.50
88 vg+ .... 5.50
1st App. Franklin Richards (Un-named)
89 vg+ .... 5.50
90-93 vg+ .... 4.50
94 fn ..... 7.75
1st App. Agatha Harkness
95 vfn- .... 10.50
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97 fn+ ..... 7.95
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100 vg+ ... 18.00
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101 fn ..... 6.75
102 fn- ..... 5.95
Magneto x-over
103 fn- ..... 3.95
Magneto x-over Thing Vs Sub-Mariner
104 vg+ .... 3.75
Magneto x-over
105 fn ..... 4.50
105 fn+ .... 4.50
cover stain
105 nm ..... 9.75
106 fn ..... 3.75
cover stamp
106 fn ..... 4.50
107 fn+ ..... 5.25
107 vfn ..... 7.95
108 vfn- .... 10.50
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109 fn ..... 4.50
109 vfn+ .... 9.25
110 vfn- ..... 6.95
111 fn- ..... 3.95
111 vfn+ .... 9.25
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113-114 vfn- ..... 9.50
Scarce
115 fn ..... 6.50
Scarce
116 fn+ ..... 8.50
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116 fn ..... 8.75
116 fn+ ..... 9.95
Scarce 52 pgs Origin of Stranger
117 fn ..... 4.50
Scarce
118-119 vg+ ..... 5.50
Scarce
120 fn ..... 6.50
Scarce 1st App. Gabriel
121 fn- ..... 7.25
Very scarce Silver Surfer & Galactus App.
122 vg+ ..... 6.50
Very Scarce Silver Surfer & Galactus App.
123 fn ..... 8.25
Very scarce Silver Surfer & Galactus App.
124 fn ..... 6.50
Scarce
125 fn+ ..... 7.50
125 vfn ..... 11.50
125 nm- ..... 13.50
Scarce

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10 vfn .....3.25
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**GEN 13**
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6 nm .....2.50
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13 nm .....95
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13 nm .....95
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*Image Ongoing*
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*Top Cow*
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*Image Ongoing*
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*Image*
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3 nm ..... 3.95
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*Lightning*
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*DC\Vertigo Ongoing*
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*Marvel Ongoing*
200 vfn- ....15.95
Scarce Silver Surfer App.

**I BOTS**
*Teknocomix Ongoing Vol.2*
1-9 nm ..... 1.75

**IMAGE 2000 ADULT EXTRA LARGE SIGNATURE T/CARDS**
*Image 2000 6 Issues*
1 nm ..... 5.95
Signed by Brandye
1 nm .....5.95
Promo Card 16 images Series 1&2 ***Caution Adult Material***

**IMAGE 2000 ADULT OVERSIZE SIGNATURE 2 T/CARDS**
*Image 2000 6 Issues*
4 nm .....3.95
Signed by Echo ***Caution Adult Material***
6 nm .....2.95
Alisa

**IMAGE 2000 ADULT OVERSIZE SIGNATURE T/CARDS**
*Image 2000 6 Issues*
2 nm .....3.95
Signed by Niki ***Caution Adult Material***
6 nm .....3.95
Signed by Roxanne ***Caution Adult Material***

**IMAGE 2000 ADULT SIGNATURE SERIES 1 T/CARDS**
*Image 2000 T/c Single*
7 nm .....1.50
Deileen

**IMAGE 2000 ADULT SIGNATURE SERIES 2 T/CARDS**
*Image 2000 T/c Single*
2 nm .....1.95
Robbin ***Caution Adult Material***
8 nm .....1.95
Rachel Bonus Redemption Card

**IMAGE 2000 ADULT TRADING CARDS**
*Image 2000 T/c Single*
nm .....5.95
Extra Large Checklist
1 nm .....2.95
Playboy
2 nm .....2.95
Active Marketing
3 nm .....2.95
Penthouse Comix
4 nm .....2.95
Hooters
5 nm .....5.95
Pamela Lee Anderson
6 nm .....2.95
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7 nm .....2.95
Teddy Girls
8 nm .....2.95
21st Century Archeves
9 nm .....2.95
Exotica
10 nm .....2.95
Brandye Elaine
11 nm .....2.95
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12 nm .....2.95
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22 nm .....6.95
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nm ..... 14.95
USA NTSC Video Format ***Caution Adult Content***

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*Topps Tcset*
nm ..... 14.95
72 Card Set

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*Marvel Ongoing Vol.2*
2 nm .....2.50
3 nm .....1.95
5 nm .....1.75

**IRON MAN, THE INVINCIBLE**
*Marvel Ongoing*
150 vfn+ ....3.75
52 pgs Dr.Doom App.
169 vfn+ ....7.50
Jim Rhodes becomes Iron Man
300 nm ..... 3.95
Collector's Card Stock Foil-c 64 Pges
310 nm ..... 3.95
Bagged With animation cel Continues in War Machine #8

**JACK KIRBY'S FOURTH WORLD**
*DC*
1 nm ..... 1.65

**JOHNNY THE HOMICIDAL MANIAC**
*Slavelabor Ongoing*
1 nm ..... 3.95
2nd printing Scarce
1 nm ..... 2.50
3rd printing
6 nm ..... 2.50

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*Marvel Ongoing Vol.1*
102 fn- .....17.95
Scarce 1st App. of Enchantress & Executioner

**JUDGE DREDD ANNUAL**
*Fleetway Annual*
1981 nm ..... 14.95
1st ever Dredd-s (Previously unused)
1982 nm ..... 12.95
1983 nm ..... 9.95

**JUDGE DREDD, THE CHRONICLES OF**
*Fleetway Tpsoft*
1 vfn ..... 7.25
Bolland-a
2 vfn ..... 6.50
The Cursed Earth part 1
3 nm- ..... 7.75
The Cursed Earth part 2

**JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA**
*DC Ongoing Vol.3*
1 nm ..... 3.95
2 nm ..... 1.95
3-4 nm ..... 1.65

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*DC Gnsoft*
nm ..... 4.50
Elseworlds-s

**JUSTICE SOCIETY, THE LAST DAYS OF**
*DC One-shot*
1 nm ..... 3.95

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*Caliber*
1 nm ..... 2.50

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Barbi Twins Scarce Redemption Card
nm ..... 3.95
Brandye Elaine Scarce Redemption Card
nm ..... 3.95
Christmas Card Scarce Redemption Card
nm ..... 3.95
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nm .....29.95
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*Londonight*
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Scarce 50,000 print run Chromium-c Hughes-c/a

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*Teknocomix Ongoing Vol.2*
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*Topps*
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Promo Card Scarce
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Promo Card
Scarce ***Caution All Adult Material***

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Essential Vertigo Ed
50 nm ..... 8.95
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Tommy Tomorrow
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Scarce

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*Dark Horse 4 Issues*
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*Marvel Ongoing*
8 vfn ... 2.75
9 vfn ... 1.60
10 nm- ... 2.35
11 vfn+ ... 2.35
12 nm- ... 2.35
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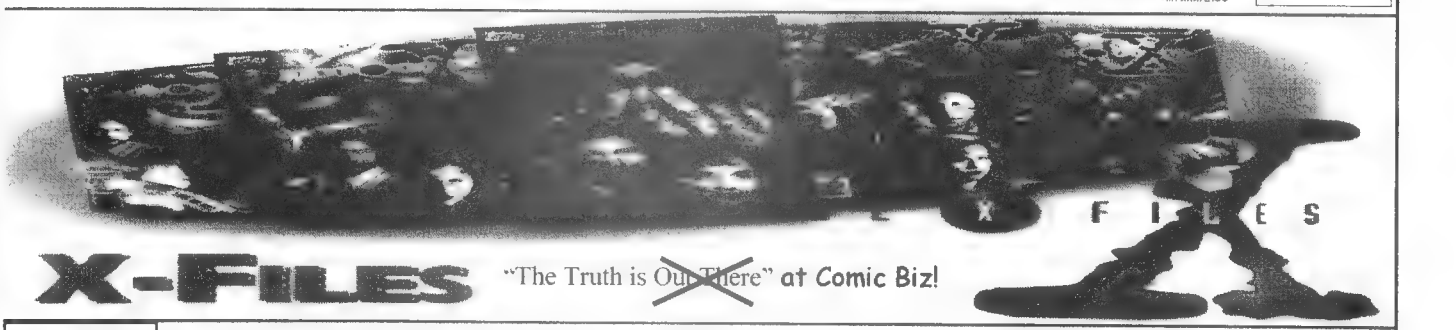


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***Review codes:** General competitive performance of a title is measured on a scale of 1 to 10. A specific issue's quality, as measured against previous issues: <- - -> to <+ + +>.*

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**Reviews Editor: Sarah Bolesworth**
**Reviewing panel:** Fabio P Barbieri (FPB), Simon Bowland (SiB), Grant S Doig (GSD), Nigel Lowry (NL), Ian R Salmon (IRS)

## DARK HORSE

### Body Bags 3

*by Pearson*

<+> Panda joins her dad and his partner on what she thinks is a snatch-and-grab job; but she quickly discovers it's a hit. Interesting characters and good art are marred here by the generally nasty tone of the title — a father trying to slice his daughter to death is hardly sympathetic! (NL) **6**

### Heretic 1

*by Phillips & DeLeonardo + Vines*

A one-time religious warrior quits his current super-team after a battle with some suspiciously WildCATS-like enemies in order to pursue a personal vendetta against his wife's killer. Not bad for a first issue; only the script occasionally jars. (NL) **6**

## DC COMICS

### Action Comics 731

*by Michelinie & Grummett + Rodier*

<+> Cauldron returns to wreak havoc in Metropolis harbour, and Superman may provide only a temporary respite from the menace. The story lacks direction, with too many one-off villains popping up out of the blue — and Denis Rodier's inks seem to smother Tom Grummett's fine pencils. (SiB) **6**

### Adventures of Superman 544

*by Kesel & Immonen + Marzan Jr*

<- +> Intergang returns just as Clark Kent is shot and killed outside the offices of the **Daily Planet**. It's up to Superman to find the killer... but how can he? The book is running out of steam, obviously, and although the art and script are first class, the lack of plot still hurts the finished product. (SiB) **6**

### Batman & Captain America

*by Byrne*

It's World War II, and the Golden Age Batman and Captain America team up to stop Red Skull and the Joker detonating a nuclear bomb in Washington DC. A fun story, full of the joys of Forties' comics. Even John Byrne does a better job than usual, but in the end it all seems pointless. A fun but lightweight read for the price. (NL) **7**

### Books of Faerie 1

*by Carlton & Ross; Vertigo*

An impressive companion to **Books of Magic** recounting how a young girl became Queen Titania of Faerie. Bronwyn Carlton's script carries all the magic, terror and treachery of real fairy tales, while Peter Gross's detailed art is as good as any of his work on the parent title. (IRS) **8**

### Challengers of the Unknown 2

*by Grant & Leon + Martinbrough*

<-> The new Challengers uncover a mystery involving drug addicts-turned-zombies. The art is wonderfully moody, and the script more Vertigo than DC Universe. This shows great promise — if the creators stay in place. (NL) **8**

### The Dreaming 9

*by Talbot & Taylor + Ozkan; Vertigo*

<+ +> This is the first issue of the anthology series to really use the timing and logic of dreams. Bryan Talbot's tale of love postponed and Dreaming on the verge of death veers as wildly between hope and nightmare as the art does between realism and cartoon impressionism. Wonderful. (IRS) **9**

### Flash/Green Lantern: Faster Friends 2

*by Waid & Augustyn + Semeiks + Wallace*

<-> After Alien X's call summoning an army to Earth, Golden Age and modern Flash with Green Lantern travel to the aliens' home world to prevent the army's departure. The only problem is that Kyle is now Flash, and Wally is Green Lantern! This is not as good as the first issue, a surprise, considering Waid and Augustyn's involvement, and the poor art and dull plot make an unsatisfying climax to what could have been a great story. (NL) **5**

### Flash 122

*by Waid & Augustyn & Ryan + Nyberg*

<-> The Flash is evicted from his home town and must find another base. This book was once one of DC's best, but now it's quite simply a bore. Whose bright idea was it to put Ryan on pencils? (GSD) **4**

<+ -> The town of Santa Marta offers to take Wally as a resident after his eviction from Keystone City, but with Linda refusing to move, does it mean their relationship is over? Although the story lacks direction, the usual superlative dialogue and art remain — Paul Ryan's Flash is one of the best around when he's in action. (SiB) **7**

### Hellblazer 110

*by Jenkins & Phillips; Vertigo*

<+> The ravens are leaving the Tower, Walter Raleigh's drum is beating, England is threatened by the machinations of the mage Myrrdin (not Disney's cuddly Merlin) and, in Arthur's absence, John Constantine is the Last Man Standing as the usual team make an impressive start to a seemingly apocalyptic five-part storyline. (IRS) **8**

### Hitman 11

*by Ennis & McCrea*

<+> Featuring one of the strangest team-ups of all time as Monaghan and Green Lantern — basically — have a pint together. Garth Ennis manages to portray the long-underwear brigade as ridiculously out of their depth in the nasty corner of the DC Universe he and John McCrea are busy building. (IRS) **8**

### The Invisibles 2:1

*by Morrison & Jiminez + Stokes; Vertigo*

<+ + +> Grant Morrison's back, and he's brought one hell of an art team with him. The gorgeous illustrations by Phil Jiminez and John Stokes make Morrison's paranoid fantasies more attractive than ever. New and improved, sharp and accessible — buy it this time and discover the conspiracies *X Files* hasn't the courage to seek. (IRS) **9**

<+> Jolly Roger, the Invisible whose cell was slaughtered, leads King Mob's cell on a mission to retrieve Aids medication. The series' new volume is kicking on all fronts: the stories and visuals are more accessible, the art team is permanent and the Brian Bolland covers an added draw. This could take off in a way the original never could. (NL) **8**

<+ -> With volume two writer Grant Morrison increases the pace of the storyline and the unmistakable visuals of Phil Jiminez and John Stokes ensure that the whole package is one of the best. (SiB) **9**

### Jack Kirby's Fourth World 1

*by Byrne*

John Byrne proves that he can ape the King's art style and the worst of Stan Lee's cod-Shakespeare scripts but neither of the great men's storytelling. Avoid as though your life depended on it. (IRS) **1**

Most of this debut issue is a history of Apokalips and New Genesis, with only the last few pages actually carrying a story. This is bad: abysmal art, tons of swipes — albeit acknowledged — dull plot and awful dialogue. It's probably the worst DC launch since...

well, if **Scare Tactics** weren't around, a long time! (NL) **2**

## JLA 3

*by Morrison & Porter + Dell*

<+> Superman's captives, the JLA members, are on the edge of defeat — the world belongs to the Hyperclan. Unfortunately for them, however, Batman is on the loose. Grant Morrison's take on this title is reminiscent of the team during the Sixties and Seventies, showing a true love of the characters and a feel for genuine heroism. If only the writing had the art it deserves. (IRS) **8**

<+> This series gets better by the issue: Grant Morrison has an excellent grasp of the iconic heroes and Porter proves himself a major talent and the perfect choice for this team — his Batman is better than any of the Batbooks creators'. (NL) **8**

<+> Despite the aliens-take-over-Earth cliche, the story itself is lively enough and the art — a little crisper this month — properly finished, if at times a little muddled. (SiB) **7**

## Justice Riders

*by Dixon & Williams III + Gray*

When the people of Diana Prince's town are massacred by tyrant Maxwell Lord she forms a team including Katar Johnson, John Jones, Kid Flash, Booster Gold and the Beetle, which races across the old West searching for Lord and Justice. A ripping tale, with lots of fun to be had from familiar faces in unfamiliar settings. The script sparkles and the art is absolutely superb. A joy all round. (NL) **9**

## Legionnaires 45

*by Stern & McCraw + Moy + Carani*

<-> In response to a call for help, the Legion visits Gates's home world. Unfortunately Gates is currently missing in action, so some subterfuge is required. This title is slipping, as is its sister book. However, some hope lies in the apparent (re)introduction of one of the team's most powerful foes. (GSD) **6**

## Legion of Super-Heroes 89

*by Perey & McCraw + Moy + Boyd*

<-> Still trapped in the past, the members of the team begin falling out with one another. This story, given normal pacing, could have been good; but it's dragging now, and guest appearances in other titles haven't helped. In fact, some of those guest spots were better than the main event — a sad state of affairs. (GSD) **5**

## Preacher 23

*by Ennis & Dillon; Vertigo*

<-> This episode of the *Crusaders* storyline may not have the impact of last issue, despite a major plot development, but it is told with such style that to complain would be churlish. In other words, more violence, cynicism and swearing in the best book on the market. (IRS) **8**

<+> The pace increases with the Saint of Killers confronting Jesse in Masada just as the occupant of cell 99 is revealed, delivering secrets about Jesse and the Saint. A big issue with lots about the Genesis creation and more progress for Jesse than in any other book. The creators are on as good form as ever, and Glen Fabry even gets away with a sex scene on the cover. (NL) **9**

## The Sandman 8

*by Gaiman & Dringenberg + Jones III; Essential Vertigo*

<+> Reprint of the now classic first appearance of Death. Dream's sister arrives and, in a bid to cheer up her brother, takes him on her journeys to life's end. A thought-provoking script supported with some inspired art from Mike Dringenberg and the late Malcolm Jones III. (SiB) **9**

## Starman 28

*by Robinson & Hamilton + Snyder*

<-> A 1976 flashback tale revealing the events that may lead to the alien Starman's downfall. Despite some lovely art from Hamilton this is the second disappointing issue in a row. It's to be hoped that Robinson will be back on form soon because, as earlier issues prove, this is one of DC's best series. (NL) **6**

## Supergirl 7

*by David & Frank + Smith*

<+> After skirting around the issue for ages, Supergirl delves into Linda Danvers' memories to discover how the menacing Buzz led her astray and started Linda on the path to destruction. Frank turns in some fine visuals as usual, but he also co-plots and -scripts with David with no appreciable fall in quality; perhaps a truly talented writer/artist in the works for once! (NL) **9**

<+> Gary Frank's pencils hit new heights this issue, and he provides the poignant plot, too, as the various threads start knitting together to form a strong cental story. (SiB) **9**

## Superman: Whatever Happened to the Man of Tomorrow?

*by Moore & Swan + Perez + Schaffenberger*

A collected edition of the last two pre-Byrne Superman tales. Superman has been out of the public eye for 10 years, and a reporter decides to ask Lois Lane, now married, for the precise details of events leading up to his disappearance. What follows is a classic superhero tale combining heroism with tragedy — with one of the coolest endings ever. Glorious pencil work from the late, great Curt Swan is a bonus, and there are some interesting text pieces too, wrapped up with some photos of Swan and fellow Superman creators. Well worth it at twice the price — brilliant stuff! (SiB) **10**

## Superman 121

*by Jurgens w/Rubinstein*

<+ +> Clark Kent visits an area of Metropolis known as Suicide Slum and decides it's about time Superman cleaned the place up. But he discovers, to the detriment of one resident, that the Man of Steel cannot protect everyone all the time. Excellent one-off supervillain-free issue, dynamically written and with the welcome return (if only for this issue) of writer Dan Jurgens to the pencilling. (SiB) **8**

## Teen Titans 5

*by Jurgens w/Perez*

<+> Nightwing arrives on the scene and questions the new Teen Titans' credentials, forcing them to prove their worth when Supergirl finds herself in trouble. High-scoring on dialogue and text, and the Dan Jurgens-George Perez art combo is better than ever, with Perez's stamp of authority on the finishing. (SiB) **8**

## Tempest 4

*by Jiminez w/Aiken*

<+> Aqualad is now Tempest,


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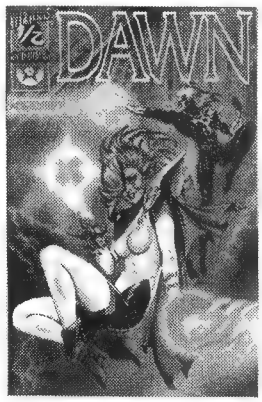


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and realises here that his beloved Tula has not come back to life — that she is in fact an imposter, and he must come to terms with losing her all over again. Writer Phil Jiminez constructs an emotional ending to an excellent series, while Jiminez the penciller and co-inker turns in his finest work yet on both layouts and visuals. (SiB) **9**

### Wonder Woman 118

*by Byrne*

<+ -> Cheetah returns, this time having lost the little humanity she once had, and she's hell-bent on dealing with Diana. The trouble starts when Diana's hand suddenly drops off, as if it were made of clay, leaving her at the Cheetah's mercy. Strong on story, but still weak on art with the inking particularly scratchy. Head and shoulders above many titles, but for John Byrne not at all brilliant. (SiB) **7**

## IMAGE COMICS

### Friends of Maxx 2

*by Kieth w/Sinclair*

<+ -> Kieth's work is becoming if anything more daring and confident. This issue is all about maleness and the different perceptions of sensitive, confused Ira and his boorish friend Charley — and how they meet with disappointment, crime and girls, often in the same package. A vital read. (FPB)**10**

### The Darkness 2

*by Ennis & Silvestri + Batt*

<-> The Brotherhood of Darkness tries to teach Estacado about his newfound abilities, but he rebels and goes rogue. Although Garth Ennis adds some interest to the subplot and Silvestri turns in some better than usual visuals, this is still nothing but typical Image fare, shallow and un-engaging — a shame, given the writer's ability. (NL) **5**

### A Distant Soil 17

*by Doran*

<+> While Dunstan reveals the limits of Sir Galahad's mobility in the modern era, D'Mer tries to train Minetti in unarmed combat, and Lady Bast seduces Rieken. On her own material Doran proves a remarkable artist, her work setting off surprisingly strong, sensitive writing. The only problem lies in the book's central premise; it's such a sprawling epic that it's hard to remember what happens to who — but it's so good that it's worth persevering. (NL) **8**

### Gen13 Bootleg 2

*by Farmer & Davis; Wildstorm*

<-> The young heroes are being manipulated by a telepathic race from another dimension. This book makes no sense at all: for instance, if Kat's kids team is only a telepathic illusion, why does she get so worked up about them? Great art, as expected, but that's about all on offer here. (FPB) **5**

<+> Lost in different realities that turn out to be not so diverse, the separated team members must somehow reunite to defeat Team alpha's abductor. While not as strong a writer as Davis, Farmer proves a stronger scripter than most Image writers, making this story more pleasurable. It goes without saying, moreover, that the art here is sumptuous. (NL) **7**

### Kurt Busiek's Astro City 2:4

*by Busiek & Anderson + Blybery*

<+ -> A teenager leaves his unhappy orphan existence in a dusty midwestern town and heads off to the bright lights of Astro City and life as a superhero. This beautiful issue deserves an extra point for the hugely imaginative view of a world where superheroes are a recognised social group. (FPB) **9**

### Savage Dragon 33

*by Larsen*

<+> Rapture gives birth to the Dragon's son, but there are subsequent complications that seem set to end in tragedy. It's been building for months, but there's no disappointing anticlimax here, with Larsen handling the situation more impressively than could have been imagined. (SiB) **8**

### Stormwatch 43

*by Ellis & Raney + Elliott*

<-> An issue focusing on Hawksmoor's pursuit of a serial killer linked to the US government. Another good edition in Ellis's **Stormwatch** run, only marred by the tedium of single-issue stories. Although there is more plot in this comic than five others, a multi-part tale would be good — with a cliffhanger or two — for the title's long-term development. (GSD) **8**

### Strangers in Paradise 2

*by Moore*

<-> Francine gets a job and discovers misogyny at the cutting edge, and Katchoo makes a statement on art. This issue swaps the dreamy wistfulness of last month for a quality soap feel — but with work of this calibre that's *very* high quality indeed. (IRS) **8**

### A Touch of Silver

*by Valentino*

This book shouldn't work but does. The kid who escapes into comics from a dysfunctional family life has been done a million times, but this version of the story manages against the odds to be touching, involving and credible. (FPB)7

### WildCATS 32

*by Moore & Broome + Lee + Bennett*

<+ -> Only Alan Moore would use a fight scene (in this case, between Maxine and Overkill) as comic relief — and hilarious it is, too. But tragedy in this book happens not only on the battlefield; it's in the abuse of deep, unselfish love by a scheming swine. Despite inconsistent, messy art, this is tremendous. (FPB) **9**

## MARVEL COMICS

### The Avengers 5

*by Liefeld & Loeb & Churchill & Liefeld*

<-> The Hulk takes on Thor in his search for Bruce Banner, which is padded out to fill nearly all the issue. Too many splash pages and too little development spoil an already poor episode, with Ian Churchill's pencils proving the only saving grace. But even this is cancelled out by some substandard Rob Liefeld pencils — how the mighty are fallen! (SiB) **3**

### Captain America 4

*by Loeb & Liefeld + Sihal + Strucker*

<-> The new Bucky tries to free Captain America and the Falcon from the Red Skull, but predictably fails and winds up tied to a nuclear bomb. It's all in vain, anyway, as Captain America is making his own

break for freedom. Ridiculous issue on two counts: the female Bucky looks foolish and the dialogue is laughably unrealistic. Art-wise, it's passable, but little else. (SiB) **4**

## Daredevil 362

*by Kesel & Nord + Ryan*

<-> Daredevil's encounter with the Black Widow leaves him daydreaming when he should be working, but a shooting in his law firm's offices soon brings him back to the land of the living. Note: no supervillains this issue, just pure character development, and it's all done without being boring. Sadly, Cary Nord's pencils are below par, lacking in detail and polish. (SiB) **7**

## Excalibur 107

*by Raab & Larocca + Koblish*

<+ + +> Captain Britain struggles to reach a decision about his future — superhero or scientist? The arrival of the Dragons of the Crimson Dawn helps his decision immensely when they attack his girlfriend, Meggan, and declare that he's about to die. A brilliant return to form, in both story and art, reminiscent of Chris Claremont and Alan Davis's days on the title. (SiB) **8**

## Fantastic Four 5

*by Lee & Choi + Williams*

<+> While Reed and Sue contend with Dr Doom, Ben and Johnny discover that Wyatt Wingfoot isn't the traitor they thought — and that the traitor is in fact a familiar face from a shapeshifting race. Lee's modern reworking of the Fantastic Four is a joy, full of energy and respect for the original and capable of sustaining an involving story and art. Rob Liefeld should take notice, or just hand over Cap and the Avengers to Lee. (NL) **8**

<-> The Thing and the Human Torch arrive to help Reed and Sue take on Doctor Doom, but they hadn't reckoned on the arrival of a grotesque new Super Skrull. He could have called first! Fun story, as ever, but though Jim Lee's art is still pleasing to the eye, it looks a little less polished than usual — and the colouring is horribly muddy. (SiB) **7**

## Generation X #25

*by Lobdell & Bachalo + Hanna + Vey*

<+> The future of Generation X is up in the air as Black Tom Cassidy declares the team his, much to the surprise of team leader Banshee. Try as he might, Howard the Duck cannot divert Cassidy, so will Banshee kill Emma Frost to stop his students falling under the rebel's spell? Highly entertaining double-sized issue with fantastic dialogue and pacing and the welcome return of Chris Bachalo to pencils. (SiB) **9**

## Hulk/Pitt

*by David & Keown + Panosian*

Timmy, the boy who shares a connection with Pitt, enters Hulk's world with his oversized counterpart in tow, hoping to set up a grudge match between the two behemoths. Is Rick Jones the key to averting the fight? This is just like the old days again, with a well-written tale from Peter David and some sterling pencils from Dale Keown (when he wants, he *can* still draw). (SiB) **7**

## Incredible Hulk 450

*by David & Deodato + Rebner*

<+ -> The Hulk is dying and while trying to help him, Dr Strange discovers the Heroes Reborn universe but is thrown back to his own before he can achieve anything. An enjoyable issue, but it's a shame that the second tale is contradicted by the content of **Tales of the Marvel Universe** [see below]. (GSD) **7**

<-> The Hulk meets the Wild Man, has a fight and is joined by *another* Hulk. In the second story, Dr Strange travels to the Heroes Reborn universe and there discovers that the Hulk is its focus point, drawing energy from that reality to become stronger. It's so sad to see this once indispensable title foundering, directionless and with about as much drive as a Reliant Robin. (NL) **4**

## Incredible Hulk 451

*by David & Deodato Studios*

<+ +> The Hulk takes over Duck Island and, renaming it Hulk Island, issues a diktat that nobody should leave. Just when we thought that Peter David had lost it, he turns up a most intriguing new direction for the Hulk — and Mike Deodato Jr turns in his finest art yet for this title. Now, the future seems brighter. (SiB) **9**

## Iron Man 5

*by Lobdell + Lee & Benjamin + Crawford*

<+ -> Stuck without his Iron Man armour, Tony Stark is forced to do battle with Whirlwind, but can he outwit his enemy purely through the force of intellect? Solid entertainment, still, with some impressive visuals. (SiB) **7**

## Peter Parker Spider-Man 78

*by Mackie & Romita Jr + Hanna*

<+ +> Peter Parker begins suffering nasty side-effects from Morbius's bite, allowing Spider-Man to fall into the vampire's hands. The return of penciller John Romita Jr seems to give extra dimension to writer Howard Mackie's abilities, resulting in an engaging read. (SiB) **7**

## Prime 15

*by Shaheen & Rio; Ultraverse*

<-> Prime takes on Lord Pumpkin for the last time, fighting this time for his family's lives as well. This is the final issue, and not before time, too: drab plots, weak scripting and unrefined art have burdened this book for too long now and its closure is surely a blessing for fans of the original title. (SiB) **4**

## Punisher 17

*by Ostrander & Lyle + Jones*

<+> The Punisher is thought to be dead, leaving Frank Castle free to recover from his injuries in an old church. The trouble is that the city marshal believes Castle's alive, and Frank's suffering from amnesia. Not wholly original, but still entertaining enough with a new story strand and solid script and art. (SiB) **8**

## Sensational Spider-Man 14

*by DeZago & Weringo + Case*

<+ -> Spider-Man continues his adventures in the Savage Land. Roxxon is not as benevolent as it appears to be and, it seems, the troubles of the Savage Land are artificial. Mike Weringo excels, as ever, and Todd DeZago's writing is surprisingly good. (GSD) **8**

<+ -> Hilarious scripting from writer Todd DeZago combines effectively with the


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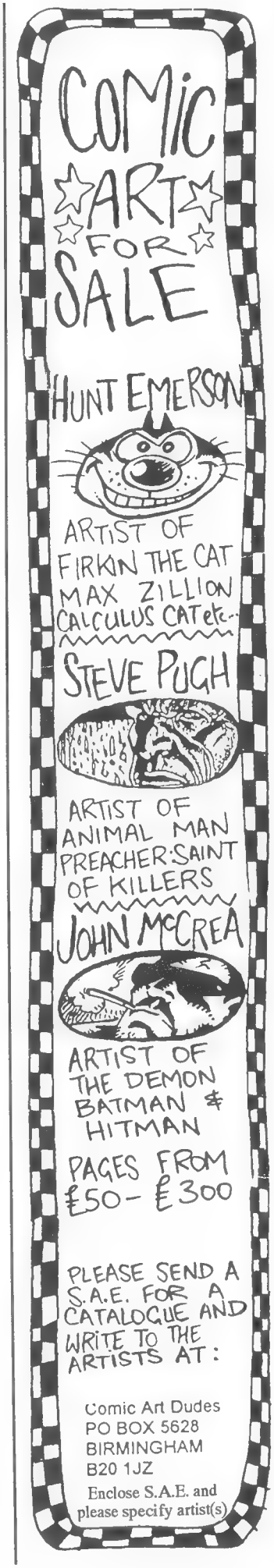
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cartoony Mike Wieringo art. (SiB) **8**

### Silver Surfer 125

*by Greenberg, DeMatteis & Garney + Wiacek w/Felder & Hitch*

<+ + +> The Surfer confronts the Hulk as he tries to come to terms with the loss of the *Onslaught* heroes, but he finds the Hulk a mere shadow of his former self. Is it beyond even the Surfer's cosmic powers to save the green giant? Excellent development issue with some classic Ron Garney art making the Surfer appear truly alien. Touching back-up strip with Bryan Hitch artwork completes a good double-sized issue. (SiB) **8**

### Spectacular Spider-Man 244

*by DeMatteis & Ross + Stanisci*

<- +> The hilarious Kangaroo returns to add a little classic humour to the tale before the Chameleon finds himself abducted by Kraven. The initial disappointment of dead Kraven's return is mitigated by writer JM DeMatteis's device — Kraven is not what he appears to be. Luke Ross is still improving, but must he draw a smiley face on Spider-Man's mask? (SiB) **7**

### Spider-Man/Gen13

*by David & Immonen + Smith*

Mercenary Glider attacks Spider-Man in a ploy to draw out Gen13 so she can abduct the team for a client. This is very lightweight... Glider's motives are weak — like the story as a whole, despite the subplot about Glider's daughter. Even Immonen's artwork isn't as strong as usual. A huge disappointment, given the prestige of the creators. (NI.) **5**

### Tales of the Marvel Universe 1

*by Waid & Busiek & Kubert + Bagley*

An anthology title based in the post-*Onslaught* era which also serves the function of plugging future books. The Waid/Kubert Kaz-ar story is the best of the bunch; the worst is the dire Dr Strange's. (GSD) **6**

### Ultraforce 15

*by Wein & Park + Rapmund; Ultraverse*

<+> The team confronts Demonseed, whom one of them helped create. Hardcase is forced to sacrifice himself in the fight, but not before Ripfire suffers the same fate. Tragic ending to a very uneven series, but at least it rounds off in *some* style, with an averagely written action epic and some good artwork from relative newcomer Andy Park. (SiB) **6**

### Uncanny X-Men 341

*by Lobdell & Madueira*

<+ -> Cannonball fights Gladiator for a while before their misunderstanding is cleared up (ever seen *that* plot before?), then teleports the team halfway across the galaxy. Great stuff from a title that is back on form after too many filler issues. (GSD) **8**

### Uncanny X-Men 342

*by Lobdell & Madureira*

<+> One minute it's Christmas time in New York, the next you're suddenly teleported on to an out-of-control Shi'ar cruiser: such is the life of an X-Man. This is the most enjoyable story in the title for an age, with everyone involved giving it their best. (GSD) **9**

<+> Half the X-Men are whisked into space to help with a crisis on the Shi'ar's home world, but their first major problem is avoiding an asteroid belt that threatens to destroy their ship. Excellent change of pace in the storyline and supreme artwork from Joe Madureira and Tim Townsend. (SiB) **9**

### Untold Tales of Spider-Man 19

*by Busiek w/Larance & Oliffe + Williamson*

<+ -> Aunt May innocently invites Doctor Octopus around for tea, forcing Pete to bring the tentacled villain to justice as swiftly as possible. But problems with his Aunt May and his on-off girlfriend Betty provide unwelcome distractions. A gripping tale with all the trimmings: fast-paced plotting with excellent dialogue and splendid art. (SiB) **8**

### X-Men Unlimited 14

*by Kavanagh & Cheung + Pepoy*

<+ +> Franklin Richards, now orphaned thanks to the Heroes Reborn story, finds life with the Beast's parents a little on the tedious side, so with Artie and Leech from Generation X, he decides to have an adventure of sorts. Next thing he knows, Storm's been shot and some mutant-hunters are trying to kill him and his buddies. Standard fare from writer Terry Kavanagh, but the cartoony style of penciller Jim Cheung is a breath of fresh air, sorely under-used though he is. (SiB) **7**

### X-Men 62

*by Lobdell + Raab & Pacheco + Thibert*

<+ +> Shang-Chi bumps into the X-Men in Scotland as he answers a call for help from his old secret service friend, Clive Reston. Enticing new storyline with the strong plot and script combo expected from this book — and backed now by the glorious pencil work of Carlos Pacheco. (SiB) **8**

## US INDEPENDENTS

### The Age of Heroes 2

*by Hudnall & Ridgway; Halloween*

<+> A warrior doomed to unrequited love at last meets the object of his affections. A fascinating premise, but what really makes this book work is John Ridgway's magnificent and unique artwork: right from the superlative opening sequence you know you're in the hands of a master. (FPB) **7**

### Armature 1

*by Oliff; Olyoptics*

After decades at the top of his profession, legendary colourist Steve Oliff at last writes, draws and of course colours his first full comic. This issue, he says, is only an introduction, so we don't have to try to make sense of the bizarre adventures of a skeleton-like squiggle. Interesting... (FPB) **7**

### Axis Mundi 1

*by Carney & Marshal; Amaze Ink*

Teenage epileptic Button Smith is, in cyberspace, the fiercest of vandal hackers Axis Mundi. Regardless of the hateful, explicit paean to destruction, this is a brilliant work, cleanly written and drawn, imaginative, energetic and well-conceived, from the seemingly bottomless depths of the British talent pool. (FPB) **7**

### The Bandy Man 2

*by Petrucha & Kim; Caliber*

A deliberately skewed rewriting of *Genesis* with fairly impressive abstract artwork.

The bid to deal with fundamental issues is hurt by ignorance ("most cultures have creation myths"), but at least it has the merit of being a genuine and serious attempt. (FPB) **6**

## Cerebus 213

*by Sim & Gerhard; Aardvark Vanaheim*

<+> The peaceful, pointless life of mild debauchery in the male-dominated tavern seems to be drawing to a close with some female intervention. Dave Sim continues his battle of the genders, painting both as fairly useless while developing his unique storytelling methods. (IRS) **8**

## Doctor Cyborg 1

*by Gross & Wheatley + Hempel + Willis; Attention*

This story, about the conflicts and spy shenanigans surrounding an inventor is satisfyingly original but confusing and unengaging — except for a few moments, it is hard to feel anything for the characters. Nevertheless, this is the well-drawn germ of something that might be quite interesting. (FPB) **6**

## Filthy Habits Comics 2

*by Walker & Jones; Aeon*

<+ -> Clay, the miserable bugger with the three-mile nose, makes use of certain chemicals for the first time. Within a few minutes he is stripping off (to the distress of his friends) and committing unusual acts in the unshaking belief that he is Wonder Woman. Hilarious, and a great cover, too. (FPB) **9**

## Finder 1

*by McNeil; Lightspeed*

This book confirms Carla Speed McNeil as one of the brightest new talents for years. Everything *lives* on the page from the word go, and is written and drawn with beautiful, imaginative simplicity. Too original to summarise, it involves an adventurer, a strange city and four women in a flat. *Read it!* (FPB) **9**

## The Fool 1

*by Zimmerman & Theisen; Mythic*

Underrated writer Randy Zimmerman has produced another attractive concept, a clownish superhero who not only beats on criminals but makes them look absurd. Sadly, however, the book is nearly wrecked by Theisen's incompetent visuals. (FPB) **6**

## Greener Pastures 1

*by Michalandos & McEwen; Kronos*

A very polite bull with a mind of his own goes up to the farmer and tells him he wants to go out and see the world. A funny premise and a decent sense of humour throughout make for a likeable if not absolutely uproarious book. (FPB) **6**

## Gothis 1

*by Ylagan; Epidemic*

Melvin Ylagan's stuff impressed Joe Quesada enough to make him write a very complimentary introduction here and, on first impact, the story about Goth vampires is pretty impressive. But gradually the effect wanes, and you start to wonder if it isn't mostly flash and surface, after all. (FPB) **6**

## Hilly Rose 8

*by Boyer; Astro*

<+> Hilly's father has landed her in another mess — the cops know she was at the scene of every disaster and take her for a suspect. And they're a rough crew, these cops — they even watch old *Columbo* shows. (FPB) **8**

## Knight's Round Table 1

*various creators; Knight*

A very uneven anthology title. The Ashley Dust episode, though underdrawn and far too brief, shines out; Nichols and Stokes's *Savage City* is pretty good; and the rest goes from fair (*Parts Unknown*) to awful (*Warlace*). (FPB) **6**

## Lost Girls 2

*by Moore & Gebbie; Kitchen Sink*

Even Homer sleeps sometimes, as the Greeks used to say. This is one of Alan Moore's mistakes, a rather vulgar misuse of classic children's book characters with little detectable point to it. Above all, it's dull: if writers like DH Lawrence [**Lady Chatterly's Lover**] and Nabokov [**Lolita**] could write great erotic fiction, why can't Moore? He's surely clever enough. (FPB) **4**

## Love Sucks 1

*by Santiago & Juch; Ace*

Three mates — a handsome one who pulls without trying, a brash, macho, ponytailed blond who talks big but only scores with dimwits, and a one who doesn't even try but stays at home and does finger-exercises. Great fun, if not a little closer to sexual fantasy than is strictly necessary. (FPB) **7**

## Mercedes 12

*by Friedland & Fuhst; Angus*

<+> There is more behind last issue's ghoul than a mundane revenge story. Mercedes discovers that a rebel angel has taken lodgings just next door. Investigating, she leaves Chloe to protect the child — to which Chloe, with her new vampiric tendencies, is eminently suited... (FPB) **7**

## Ninjak 3

*by Busiek & Vokes + Oeming; Valiant Heroes*

<+ -> Ninjak visits the offices of Acclaim, producers of the Ninjak computer game [and publishers of the Valiant Heroes imprint], trying to find out why game characters keep attacking him. But equally worrying for Denny is that his best mate, Town, has started going out with Shelley, a girl who had her eye on Denny. Story-wise, the title is developing but still lacks direction. (SiB) **7**

## Pitt 12

*by Keown; Full Bleed*

<-> It's been so long between issues one and 12 that the storyline seems confused and repetitive. Pitt and Timmy are still pining for one another, although Pitt has lost what little humanity he had and is madder than ever. It's all been seen before, and even the artwork is looking dodgy in places, with some poor layouts. That said, it is still good to look at, but merely pleasant artwork does not a good book make. (SiB) **4**

## Portrait of a Young Man as a Cartoonist 2

*by Komninos; Hammer & Anvil*

<+ -> Our hero has just messed up a very promising first date. With his morale already in his boots, he visits a convention where he's propositioned by a company which does very tacky superheroes. This guy really does take himself too


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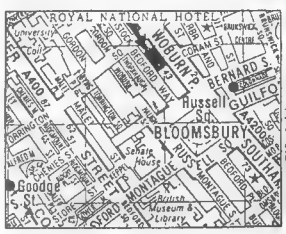

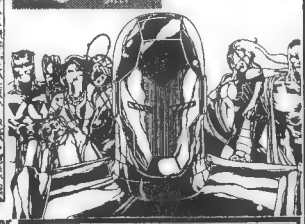
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seriously. (FPB) **6**

## Reality Check! 3

*by Rikki & Wolfgarth; Sirius*

<+ -> Colin's air-head mom lets Catreece back into his room (and computer) after he had locked her out, and the consequences spread to Hollywood and beyond. He just don't get the breaks... (FPB) **7**

## Robert Crumb's Art & Beauty Magazine

*by Crumb; Kitchen Sink*

As usual, the question is whether Crumb is serious, taking the mickey, or both. On one level, it *is* a beautiful book about drawing as art and skill; on the other, it is the old reprobate chuckling at people who draw dirty pictures of pretty girls and call it Art. Great stuff. (FPB) **9**

## Shadowman 3

*by Ennis & Wood; Valiant Heroes*

<+ -> Zero has apparently died, and yet is conscious of being thrown into Deadside, effectively hell. It's there that he discovers death to a Shadowman isn't what it used to be... Continuing the violent yet entertaining reboot with some excellent Simon Bisley/ Bill Sienkiewicz-style art. (SiB) **8**

## Shades of Gray 1

*by Gownley; Caliber Tapestry*

<+ -> Jimmy Gownley's lovely teen soap is back, as good as ever, and with the same flaws — in particular, poor artwork. Love is on all the kids' minds this issue, as we meet Megan's probable future boyfriend — at least they seem to be very taken with each other. (FPB) **8**

## Ship of Fools 3

*by Hawks & Brundage; Caliber*

Vicious Goth fiction meets pseudo-science fiction: not a happy encounter. For violence junkies who have problems with women (all harridans, here). (FPB) **2**

## Silver 1

*by Clifford Van Meter; Comicolor*

A spirited but unsuccessful attempt to inject new life into the bloated masked-vigilante genre, brought low by poor, cliched art, overused plot ideas and, from time to time, confused storytelling. (FPB) **5**

## Steviebear 3

*by Harrison; Belfax*

<+ -> This title's resemblance to early issues of **Bone** becomes even more marked with this issue — although with no question of imitation — as Ken Harrison introduces two new characters, sorceress and warrior sisters. A fun and promising series. (FPB) **7**

## Syrenniel 3

*by Klimecki; Gryphon Rampant*

The angel of death visits an overworked fantasy artist and tells him a story of ancient battles and evil kings. Despite its excellent intentions and a clear, individual vision, Lawrence Klimecki's comics are always a bit disappointing; there's something badly realised about them, and this is no different. (FPB) **5**

## Template 6

*by Luedke; Head*

<+ -> There is, it seems, a worse villain than Project Template; his name is Ism, and he's in Jason's head. Maxine Damague, herself badly wounded, has to perform a desperate rescue job, and if Ism doesn't get them it's only because of an interfering cleaner. Enjoyable stuff. (FPB) **7**

## Tick-Tock Follies

*by Butler & Hogg; Slave Labor*

A seven-strong crew of dancing girls known as the Tick-tock Follies travel around with a midget called Mico and Glenda, a hanger-on. The story records their shows, their meetings, things they do and don't do, in what seems a random fashion — until the last panel pulls everything together. Masterly. (FPB) **10**

## Troublemakers 1

*by Nicieza & Martinez + Rodriguez; Valiant Heroes*

G&G is a large corporation which has begun making people; scientists there have bred four children they're trying to make into perfect human beings. But when the children reach their teens, of course, they want their independence. Sometimes hilarious, sometimes touching, it's an excellent read with wonderfully original artwork. (SiB) **8**

## Turok: The Empty Souls

*by Nicieza & Kayanan; Valiant Heroes*

Joshua Fireseed is a big-headed, baseball-playing college grad whose main concerns are wimmin and pitchin'. That is, until his uncle passes on to him the mantle of Turok, Dinosaur Hunter, from his deathbed. Suddenly Joshua's priorities have to change. An interesting angle on an old character, with some nice scripting and fine art from Rafael Kayanan. (SiB) **7**

### Winterstar 1

*by Brizee & Shaw; Echo*

This comic's heart is in the right place and it's clear that the writer and the artist are trying hard. But they are not skilled enough to risk money on a professional debut like this, and the story — a rebellion against an evil galactic empire — is no less stale and uninspired than its Jim Lee-ish artwork. (FPB) **5**

### Wu Wei 5

*by Stern; Animus*

<+ -> After too long a wait here it is again: a strange, hypnotic mix of the mundane and deranged, with an insecure couple in danger of breaking up and a crazy hobo who lectures to the famous New York statue of a man calling a taxi. Well drawn and strikingly written, this is a comic that really *means* something. (FPB) **9**

### X Files 24

*by Rozum & Purcell + Rubenstein; Topps*

<-> A grotesquely disfigured man discovers that the more good-looking people he absorbs into his otherworldly coat the more handsome he becomes. Naturally to one so ugly it's a godsend, and he sets about sucking in as many people as his conscience can take... until FBI agents Mulder and Scully arrive. Charming, well-written tale with artwork that is a shade less impressive than usual. (SiB) **7**

### X-O Manowar 4

*by Waid & Augustyn + Chen + Ryder; Valiant Heroes*

<+ -> A terrorist group tries to detonate a nuclear bomb in downtown Los Angeles, providing the biggest test yet for the X-O armour. The writers turn the crisis into a quirky read, and the superlative art team again comes up with the goods — but sadly by issue eight only Brian Augustyn will still be on board. (SiB) **8**

### Zombie Boy 1

*by Stokes; Antarctic*

This book reduces voodoo gods to superheroes and villains, some with body-odour problems. In spite of the ubiquitous nature of the superhero genre, it doesn't seem to have occurred to Mark Stokes to try creating an atmosphere more appropriate to his subject. (FPB) **6**

## UK TITLES

### Do-Do Man 1

*by Kazybird; Edge Group*

As this is a superhero book (?) it's time we met an evil corporation. Read and grin as the little guy with the big round glasses and the horny ginger cat are captured by Mr Hire-and-fire. Good clean fun, unless you're a greedy tycoon. (FPB) **8**

### Monkey Punk

*by Butler & various creators; Slab-o-Concrete*

The world according to Chris Butler, meaning minimalist dramas and humour so dry it's almost brittle. In this cheap and lovely anthology, he writes for a real **Burke's Peerage** of British alternative artists — Dave Morris, Ed Pinsent, Lee Kennedy, Simon Gane, D'Israeli, Andy Watson and Chris Hogg. (FPB) **10**

### Sapphire 2

*by Locke; Ariel*

Vincent Locke doesn't like Whitehall; he especially doesn't like MI5 — so of course they have to be run by satanists. Conspiracy-theory nonsense, but written with dry confidence and gorgeously drawn. One might question Locke's beliefs, but not his pen and brush. (FPB) **6**

## SMALL PRESS

### Small Fruit: Socks Off

*by Derbyshire; 50p from D Derbyshire, 4 Hardwick St, Barrow-in-Furness LA14 5RZ*

Denny Derbyshire is a national treasure and should be treated accordingly. This mini-comic is a departure for her, a straightforward humorous story about two old women supported, none the less, by the creator's distinctive depth of mystery. (FPB) **9**

# PUBLISHER index

*IN ANSWER to continual requests for details concerning comics publishers, the **Comics International** Publisher's Index covers all major newsstand and direct sale mainstream comics publishers. For information about small press titles, readers are refered to the Announcements section of our classified listings at the end of each issue.*

## US PUBLISHERS

*While not exhaustive, the following are the major North American comics publishers:*

- **ACCLAIM COMICS**, 275 7th Ave, 14th Floor, New York, NY 10001 (adventure & licensed) 001 212 366 4900
- **ARCHIE COMIC PUBLICATIONS**, 325 Fayette Ave., Mamaroneck, NY 10543 (humour titles) 001 914 381 5155
- **AARDVARK-VANAHEIM**, PO Box 1674 Station C, Kitchner, Ontario N2G 4R2 Canada. (Cerebus)
- **AC COMICS**, PO Box 1216, Longwood, Fl 32752 (adventure & western titles)
- **BIG ENTERTAINMENT**, 2255 Glades Road, Suite 237W, Boca Raton, Fl 33431-7383 (s-f/fantasy comics) 001 407 998 800
- **BONGO ENTERTAINMENT**, 1999 Ave of the Stars, Los Angeles, Ca 90607 (Simpsons -related humour) 001 310 788 1367
- **CALIBER PRESS**, 11904 Farmington Road, Livonia, Mi 48150 (b&w adventure titles) 001 313 425 7930
- **CHAOS COMICS**, 7349 Via Paseo Del Sur, Suite 515-208, Scottsdale, Az 85258 (fantasy/horror comics)
- **DARK HORSE COMICS**, 10956 S. E. Main St., Milwaukie, Or 97222 (adventure, licensed & manga titles) 001 503 652 8815
- **DC COMICS**, 1700 Broadway, New York, NY 10019 (adventure, humour, Vertigo & Paradox Press imprints) 001 212 636 5400
- **DISNEY COMICS**, 500 S Buena Vista St, Burbank, Ca 91521 (humour titles) 001 818 507 5739
- **DRAWN & QUARTERLY**, 5550 Jeanne Mance St #16, Montreal, Quebec, Canada H2V 4K6 (b&w biog)
- **FANTAGRAPHIC BOOKS**, 7563 Lake City Way NE, Seattle, Wa 98115 (b&w adventure, biog & Eros adult titles) 001 206 524 1967
- **GLADSTONE PUBLISHING**, Box 2079, Prescott, Ariz 86302 (humour, licensed) 001 602 776 1300
- **HARVEY COMICS ENTERTAINMENTS**, 100 Wilshire Blvd., Santa Monica, Ca 91401 (humour titles) 001 310 451 3377
- **HARRIS COMICS**, 1115 Broadway, 8th Floor, New York, NY 10010 (Vampirella) 001 212 807 7100
- **HEAVY METAL**, 584 Broadway, Suite 608, New York, NY 10012 (adult fantasy)
- **IMAGE COMICS**, 2400 E Katella Ave, Suite 1065, Anaheim, Ca 92806 (adventure titles) 001 714 8718802
- **KITCHEN SINK PRESS**, 320 Riverside Drive, Northampton, Mass 01060 (adventure, humour & licensed) 001 413 586 9525
- **LAST GASP**, 777 Florida, San Francisco, Ca 94110 (underground) 001 415 824 6636
- **MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP**, 387 Park Ave South, New York, NY 10016 (adventure, humour & licensed titles) 001 212 696 0808
- **MAXIMUM PRESS**, 2248 North State College Blvd., Fullerton, California 92631 (adventure titles)
- **MILESTONE MEDIA**, 119 West 23rd St., Suite 409, New York, NY 10011 (adventure titles) 001 212 522 7150
- **NBM PUBLICATIONS**, 185 Madison Ave, Suite 1502, New York, NY 10016 (adult fantasy graphic novels & magazines)
- **REBEL STUDIOS**, 4716 Judy Court, Sacramento, Ca 95841. (adventure b&w titles) 001 916 443 7629
- **RIP OFF PRESS**, PO Box 4686, Auburn, Ca 95604 (underground comix)
- **SLAVE LABOR GRAPHICS**, 979 S. Bascom Ave, San Jose, Ca 95128 (fantasy b&w) 001 408 279 0451
- **TOPPS COMICS**, 254 36th St., Brooklyn, NY 11232 (adventure) 001 212 514 8190
- **VIZ COMICS**, PO Box 77010, San Francisco, Ca 94107 (translated manga titles)
- **WaRP GRAPHICS**, 43 Haight Ave, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603 (Elquest) 001 914 473 9277

## UK PUBLISHERS

*The following are the major UK newsstand comics and graphic novel publishers:*

- **DC THOMSON**, Albert Square, Dundee DD1 9QJ (humour, adventure & girls' titles)
- **FLEETWAY EDITIONS**, 25-31 Tavistock Place, London WC1H 9SU (adventure, humour, licensed) 0171 344 6400
- **JOHN BROWN PUBLISHING**, The Boathouse, Crabtree Lane, Fulham, London SW6 (Viz) 0171 381 6007
- **KNOCKABOUT COMICS**, 10 Acklam Rd, London W10 5QZ (humour & underground comix, graphic novels) 0181 969 2945
- **MANDARIN BOOKS**, Michelin House, 81 Fulham Rd, London SW3 (2000AD graphic novels) 0171 581 9393
- **MARVEL COMICS (UK)**, Panini House, Coach & Horses Passage, The Pantiles, Tunbridge Wells, Kent KT2 5UJ (humour, adventure, licensed) 01892 500 100
- **THE REDAN COMPANY**, Appleton House, 139 King Street, London W6 9JG (pre-school humour titles) 0181 563 1563
- **SAVOY BOOKS**, 279 Deansgate, Manchester M3 4EW (adult fantasy titles) 0161 833 2664
- **TITAN BOOKS**, 42-44 Dolben Street, London SE1 OUP (licensed graphic novels, magazines & comics) 0171 620 0200

## ORGANISATIONS

*UK-based comics-related societies and organisations:*

- **THE CARTOON ART TRUST**, 40 New House, 67-68 Hatton Garden, London EC1N 8JY (reg charity, exhibition gallery & library, lectures, Fri eve cartoon classes, free newsletter, send sae) 0171 405 4717
- **THE COMICS CREATORS GUILD**, c/o 171 Oldfield Grove, London SE16 2NE (organisation of comics workers; £30 annual subs: monthly newsletter & quarterly **Comics Forum** magazine) 0171 232 0703

## Comic Book Retail Agreement

# CoBRA

## Mail Order Protection Scheme

With the increasing audience for buying comics by post, reputable organisations risk suffering because of any unsatisfactory mail order transaction new readers of this magazine may have had elsewhere.

To reassure readers, **Comics International** has instigated a Mail Order Code of Practice, with participating businesses displaying the above logo in their advertisements, lists and catalogues.

### CoBRA Mail Order Protection Scheme Code of Practice

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**ii** In the event of items having sold out, customers will be offered a full cash refund for these goods.

**iii** In the event that goods are received by purchaser in unsatisfactory condition due to bad grading or poor wrapping, vendor agrees to provide acceptable replacement copies or full refund including the return postage costs incurred by purchaser.

**iv** Where required, an independent panel will judge whether goods in question are below advertised standards of grading.

**v** Where a PO Box address and trading name (other than limited company or PLC) is used by advertiser, the true name or business name (as appropriate) of the advertiser together with full address and telephone number must be submitted to **Comics International** with advertising copy, or the advertisement will not be accepted.

**vi** Vendor vouches that all goods detailed in advertisements, lists and catalogues which carry the **CoBRA MOPS** seal are graded as accurately as possible and no defect is intentionally overlooked.

**vii** Any mail order organisation subsequently failing, under investigation, to abide by this code understands upon joining that its name will be published as no longer connected with the CoBRA Mail Order Code of Practice scheme.

**CUSTOMERS:**

**i** In the event that goods ordered and paid for are not received within the advertiser's published fulfilment period, customer will notify advertiser in writing that goods have not been received and that unless a satisfactory response in writing is forthcoming, they will pursue their claim through CoBRA within 7 days.

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**iii** Customers are reminded that a standard of 28 days fulfilment is the accepted norm to allow for any outside delays in the mail routing of customers letter, together with banking time for clearance of payment and/or delays in transit for goods supplied. Collectively, these factors can add 15 days to fulfilment time.

**iv** Customers are also reminded that many mail order businesses do not have sufficient staff to allow for fulfilment of orders during vacations or stock-purchasing visits overseas, but vendors should notify customers of such occasions.

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CoBRA c/o COMICS INTERNATIONAL
8 Trinity Road, London N2 8JJ

The **CoBRA MOPS** agreement abides by the Advertising Standards Authority's Code of Mail Order Advertising Practice

# MAIL ORDER INDEX

*WITH the ever-increasing diversity of comics and related items being offered to readers through the post, the **Comics International** Mail Order Index has been designed to help the buyer identify specialists in key areas of collecting. Where telephone numbers are given, readers are advised to phone advertisers only during standard working hours.*

**Code to abbreviations used:**

| | |
|---|---|
| w/s | = wholesale available |
| dis | = bulk discount terms |
| cat | = phone/write for catalogue |
| s-cat | = sae for catalogue |
| s-wants | = sae with wants lists |
| CoBRA | = Comic Book Retailers' mail order protection scheme |
| cc | = major credit cards accepted |
| sae | = send stamped, self-addressed envelope with your enquiry |

## GOLDEN AGE TITLES

*Generally acknowledged as being published between 1938 and 1945 but herein designated to cover all pre-Silver Age American comics*

■ **Comic Biz**, PO Box 7041, London N12 9NF (wants, CoBRA, cc, cat) 0181 446 3464

■ **Mighty World of Comicana**, 125 East Barnet Rd, Barnet EN4 8RF (dis cat CoBRA cc) 0181-449 5535

■ **Incognito**, 21 Union Street, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1EB. (s-wants, CoBRA, cc) Phone/fax 01622-683642

■ **Silver Acre Comics**, PO Box 114, Chester CH 4WQ (s-wants, cc) 07000-266 427

■ **Vault Comics**, PO Box 257, South Norwood, London SE25 6JN (wants, cc, cat) 0181 771 8278

## SILVER AGE TITLES

*Generally deemed to commence in 1955 with DC Comics' hero rebirth through **Detective 225** (introducing the Martian Manhunter) and **Showcase 4** (introducing the new Flash), herein covering up to late 1960s.*

■ **Comic Biz**, PO Box 7041, London N12 9NF (wants, CoBRA, cc, cat) 0181 446 3464

■ **Cosmic Comics**, PO Box 1771, London E17 9PW. (cat, CoBRA, cc)

■ **Incognito**, 21 Union Street, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1EB. (s-wants, CoBRA, cc) Phone/fax 01622-683642

■ **Just Comics**, 2 Crossmead Avenue, Greenford, Middx UB6 9TY (cat-29p, CoBRA)

■ **Mighty World of Comicana**, 125 East Barnet Road, Barnet, EN4 8RF (dis cat CoBRA cc) 0181-449 5535

■ **Silver Acre Comics**, PO Box 114, Chester CH 4WQ (s-wants, cc) 07000 266 427

■ **Vault Comics**, PO Box 257, South Norwood, London SE25 6JN (wants, cc, cat) 0181 771 8278

## POST-SILVER AGE

*Comics from the 1970s to date: Bronze Age-Marvel Age-Lead Age up to Platinum Age-Gimmick Age-Image Age. Historians will doubtless eventually decide on a name.*

■ **Comics Warehouse**, PO Box 600, 8 Galliford Road, Maldon, Essex CM9 7XD (w/s, cat, cc, CoBRA) 01621 850351

■ **Cosmic Comics**, PO Box 1771, London E17 9PW. (cat, cc, CoBRA)

■ **Mighty World of Comicana**, 125 East Barnet Road, Barnet, EN4 8RF (dis cat CoBRA cc) 0181-449 5535

NEW ■ **Neverland Comics**, 17 Spurgeon Score, Lowestoft, Suffolk NR32 1XB (s-cat, s-wants, dis)

## HOT COMICS

*Current or key titles, usually first issues or first appearances of major characters. Investment titles for speculators willing to gamble.*

■ **Comics Unlimited**, 4 Clair St, Lime St, Bedford MK40 1NH (cat, s-wants, CoBRA, cc) 01234 365522

■ **Mighty World of Comicana**, 125 East Barnet Rd, Barnet, EN4 8RF (dis cat CoBRA cc) 0181-449 5535

## ADVANCE IMPORTS

*US comics are not in newsagents, except for most DCs and some Marvels, shipped seafreight. The following offer air-shipped copies from all major publishers.*

■ **ACE Comics**, 1 Headgate Buildings, St Johns St, Colchester, Essex CO2 7AD (wants, cat, CoBRA, cc) 01206 561912

■ **Forbidden Planet**, 71 New Oxford Street, London WC1A 1DG (s-cat cc)0171 497 2150

■ **Gosh! Strips by Mail**, 39 Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3PH 0171 636 1011

■ **Mega-City Comics**, 18 Inverness Street, Camden Town, London NW1 7HJ (s-cat, cc, CoBRA) 0171 485 9320

■ **Mighty World of Comicana**, 125 East Barnet Road, Barnet, EN4 8RF (dis cat CoBRA cc) 0181-449 5535

■ **Red Hot Comics**, The Warehouse, Block D Unit 7, Glenwood Business Centre, 141 Castlemilk Drive, Glasgow G45 9UG (CoBRA, s-wants, sae, dis) phone/fax: 0141-630 0049

■ **Time Zone**, 12 Fish Street, Shrewsbury, Shropshire SY1 1UR (dis, cat, wants) 01743 365192

## LIMITED EDITIONS

*Many high-profile mini-series and one-shots are also available in limited, numbered and often autographed editions (s&n). New titles, to acquire copyright, can also appear in small print-run "ashcan" editions (ash).*

■ **Mighty World of Comicana**, 125 East Barnet Rd, Barnet, Herts EN4 8RF (dis, cat, CoBRA, cc, ash, s&n) 0181-449 5535

## TRADING CARDS

*An increasing number of dealers carry a wide range of comics-related trading cards and their peripherals (files, folders, etc).*

■ **Beyond Comics & Books**, 76 Harlescott Road, Nunhead, London SE15 3BZ (s-cat, s-wants, sae, CoBRA) tel/fax 0171 639 7171

■ **Comics Unlimited**, 4 Clair St, Lime St, Bedford MK40 1NH (cat, s-wants, CoBRA, cc) 01234 365522

■ **First Choice Cards**, 11 Keith Ave, Liverpool L4 5SL (cat wants CoBRA)0976 285087

■ **Mighty World of Comicana**, 125 East Barnet Road, Barnet, EN4 8RF (dis cat CoBRA cc) 0181-449 5535

■ **MTCC Trading Cards**, c/o In Retrospect, 107-109 Orpington High St, Orpington, Kent BR6 0LG. (w/s dis s-wants cc) 01689 835700

■ **Next Millennium**, 14 Newark Way Hendon Loncon NW4 4JL (wants) 0181-203 0014

## OLD BRITISH TITLES

*The popularity of old British comics continues to increase as more dealers expand into this area. The following specialise in such titles.*

■ **Comic Biz**, PO Box 7041, London N12 9NF (wants, CoBRA, cc, cat) 0181 446 3464

■ **Conquistador Comic Art Mail Order,** 158 Kent House Rd, Beckenham, Kent BR3 1JY (wants, CoBRA, cat, cc) 0181-659 9714

■ **Dark Star Comics**, 18 Golden Ball Lane, Maidenhead, Berks SL6 6NW (s-cat, s-wants, 2000AD/Fleetway specialist)

■ **Ken Harman Old Comics & Pulps** (wants; call for details) 0181 771 8756

## ORIGINAL ART

*With artists having their originals returned by publishers, an increasing number of pages are now being made available.*

■ **Conquistador Comic Art Mail Order,** 158 Kent House Rd, Beckenham, Kent BR3 1JY (wants, CoBRA, cat, cc) 0181-659 9714

## PORTFOLIOS & PRINTS

*Specialists in high quality images, of American, Japanese and/or European origin.*

■ **A & A Prints**, Royal Buildings, Pwllhai, Cardigan, Dyfed SA43 1BZ (w/s, s-cat) ph/fax 01239 621 004

## MERCHANDISE

*Comics and film/tv-related t-shirts, posters, video games, video films, badges, toys, etc.*

■ **Comics Unlimited,** 4 Clair St, Lime St, Bedford MK40 1NH (cat, s-wants, CoBRA, cc) 01234 365522

■ **Mighty World of Comicana,** 125 East Barnet Road, Barnet, EN4 8RF (dis cat CoBRA cc) 0181-449 5535

■ **Off World: The Sci-Fi Store**, Unit 20, Romford Shopping Halls, Market Place, Romford, Essex RM1 3AT. (specialists in Trek, Star Wars & s-f collectables) 01708 765633

■ **Time Zone**, 12 Fish St, Shrewsbury, Shropshire SY1 1UR (dis, cat, wants) 01743 365192

## COMICS AUCTIONS

*Accepting lots from the general public, comics auctions can provide an alternative way for collectors to sell their comics.*

■ **Comic Book Postal Auctions Limited,** 40-42 Osnaburgh Street, London NW1 3ND (cat) 0171 424 0007

■ **Vault Comic Auctions**, PO Box 257, South Norwood, London SE25 6JN (cc, cat) 0181 771 8278

## PERIPHERALS

*Acid-free protection for valuable comics. Backing boards, bags, storage boxes, etc.*

■ **Incognito**, 21 Union Street, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1EB. (s-wants, CoBRA, cc) Phone/fax 01622-683642

■ **Just Comics**, 2 Crossmead Avenue, Greenford, Middlesex UB6 9TY (w/s only, CoBRA) 0181 578 1308

■ **Mighty World of Comicana,** 125 East Barnet Road, Barnet, EN4 8RF (dis, CoBRA, cc) 0181-449 5535

## MANGA TITLES

*English language translations and Japanese-style American comics.*

■ **Comics Unlimited**, 4 Clair St, Lime St, Bedford MK40 1NH (cat, s-wants, CoBRA, cc) 01234 365522

■ **United Publications**, 85 Croydon Road, Keston, Kent BR2 8HU Tel: 0181 325 9507. Email: UP@lupin.demon.co.uk (ind, back, s-p, cat, wants, cc)

## ART & REFERENCE

*Comics history reference magazines & books (ref) plus art books (art) and newspaper strip compilations (strip).*

■ **Conquistador Comic Art Mail Order,** 158 Kent House Rd, Beckenham, Kent BR3 1JY (wants, CoBRA, ref, art, strip, cat, cc) 0181-659 9714

## ALTERNATIVE & BIOG

*The following carry an extensive range of biographical and slice-of-life titles (Fantagraphics, Maus, Crumb, Pekar, etc)*

■ **Gosh! Strips by Mail**, 39 Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3PH 0171 636 1011

■ **Knockabout Comics**, 10 Acklam Road, London W10 5QZ (w/s, s-cat, cc) 0181 969 2945 (fax: 0181 968 7614)

■ **Page 45**, 9 Market Street, Nottingham NG1 6HY. 0115 9508045

## AMERICAN COMICS DISTRIBUTORS

*Anybody considering opening a comics specialist shop can obtain further information about the supply of titles from any of the following wholesalers, who air-freight bulk copies of North American comics and related items into Britain on a weekly basis:*

■ **Diamond Comic Distributors**, Unit 1, Empson St, London E3 3LT (DC, Image, Dark Horse, Viz, Kitchen Sink... exclusivity + assorted product) 0171 538 8300

■ **Marvel International Distribution**, 897 Plymouth Road, Slough SL1 4LR (Marvel titles exclusively) 01753 567 765

■ **United Publications**, 85 Croydon Road, Keston, Kent BR2 8HU (inc Antarctic, Mu and Vision) Tel/fax: 0181 325 9507. Email: UP@lupin.demon.co.uk

*In addition, many DC and Marvel titles are available to newstrade outlets from national UK distributors, who ship sea-freight from America.*

■ **IPC Market Force** (selected Marvel US standard format titles only) 0171 261 5555

■ **Portman Distribution** (selected range of DC comics only) 01533 693861

## ADVERTISING RATES

*Postal Traders:* ***Comics International****'s Mail Order Index is the industry's most cost-effective and highly-targeted way of advertising to a huge yet dedicated audience in excess of 35,000 every month. Each single category entry costs only £3.00 a month (plus VAT), and is bookable as a 6-issue series.*

*Trading name, address and relevant details — as described in the above abbreviations code — should be sent together with a pre-payment of £18 plus VAT (£21.15 total, to cover the full 6 months) for each section to:*

*Mail Order Index*
***Comics International***
*8 Trinity Road, London N2 8JJ*


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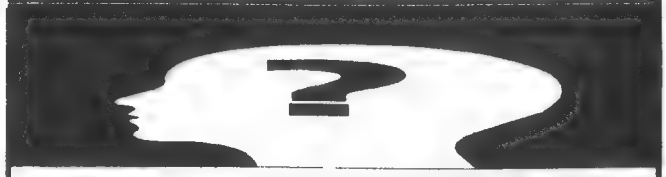

- Do you keep missing issues of your favourite comics?
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- Do you want to save money and still enjoy your hobby?

PHONE TALKING PAGES

(FREE- 7days, 24 hours) (0800 600 900) and ask for RED HOT COMICS "Special offers" to learn about our FAB offer to all *Comics International* readers. Then, write to:

**RED HOT COMICS(CI) The Warehouse,**
**Unit 7, Block D, Glenwood Business Centre**
**141 Castlemilk Drive, Glasgow G45 9UG.**
(Mail Order Specialists - no callers unless by appointment)
**Telephone/Fax 0141 630 0049** 7 days, 24 hours.
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**GROO - ANY**
**HELLBLAZER #1-50**
**DISNEY/GLADSTONE**
**J.I.M/THOR #83-150**
**PREACHER 1-12**
**SANDMAN #1-75**
**SPAWN #1-35**
**STARMAN #1-10**
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# MOVERS AND SHAKERS

***The latest news, views and rumours in our ever-popular independent look at the hits, misses, prices, projects and people making comics news. Reported by the ever mysterious and controversial team of investigative diggers and delvers known to the world only as ITMA.***

## *X-it Lobdell*

IT IS hard to believe that Scott Lobdell has been chronicling the adventures of the top-selling **X-Men** for six years.

When he replaced Chris Claremont as the writer of **Uncanny X-Men**, the general consensus was that he wouldn't last and, more importantly, he wasn't up to the job anyway.

But after more than half a decade at the mutants' helm, he is now regarded by many as one of the best writers at Marvel.

The **X-Men** titles have been top sellers for most of the last six years — only **Spawn** regularly impedes the titles' overall domination.

Now, apparently, Lobdell has quit all but **Generation X**, the young team he co-created in the pages of **Uncanny X-Men**.

The news — which like all good *Movers* items started as a rumour — comes as another blow to the ailing Marvel Comics.

While comics often boast certain issues being "jumping-on points" (a condemnation if ever there was! Why don't they make it easy for new readers the rest of the year?), these often work equally well as jumping-off points.

Shops shutting, characters dying, costumes changing. These are all good excuses for fans to kick their habit. And when Lobdell leaves the X-books, he's sure to take a large chunk of their readers away from the titles with him... whoever replaces him!

The rumour started (like most do, nowadays) on the Internet, when someone-who-knows-someone-else at Marvel posted that Lobdell had left the X-books.

The writer was quick to deny that he had left **Generation X**, but, in Lobdell's usual teasing Internet style, he didn't state whether he had left the other two books. But now it has been confirmed.

The reasons for Lobdell quitting the books which have made him a comics star are unclear. Various theories have been posted on the Internet Mutant groups ranging from "dissatisfaction with the direction" to "boredom".

Lobdell is said to be concentrating on **Generation X** and **Iron Man** and working on a new Marvel project which will debut after *Heroes Return* in October.

## *More write-offs*

OTHER fan-faves Mark Waid and Brian Augustyn are taking a 12-month sabbatical from writing **The Flash**. But the good news is that they're being replaced by Glasgow's own dynamic duo as those self-confessed lovers of the old-style superheroes Grant Morrison and Mark Millar take up the reins.

● Waid, obviously eager to spend his royalty cheques, is also writing his last issue of Acclaim's recently relaunched **X-O Manowar** with #6, leaving co-author Brian Augustyn to take on the entire job.

Giving editor-in-chief Fabian Nicieza further continuity headaches so soon into the title's run, artists Sean Chen and Tom Ryder have left after only four issues — to be replaced by Scot Eaton and Pam Eklund (?).

Things were so much easier to follow when creators lasted longer than six issues on a title. But then, we'd have less to talk about!

## *More from Marvel*

DESPITE a plethora of rumours suggesting Marvel would be hiring a bunch of household creative names to revamp the rest of the Marvel heroes line, in the wake of Jim Lee's success with **Iron Man** and **Fantastic Four**, nothing has happened.

...Until now. But not in the way so many had predicted.

As Marvel attempts to stabilise in its current financial crisis, the directive from upstairs has been "More product...NOW!".

So, Marvel editors have been approaching a number of artists and writers, asking them if they are interested in re-designing and reworking "established" Marvel icons.

The actual characters mentioned are heroes who either don't have their own titles presently, or whose sales are in the doldrums. (Which doesn't exclude that many, when you look at it!)

Doctor Strange and The Inhumans are set to follow Ka-Zar as the next 1997 revamps. But there could be at least another half dozen new additions to Marvel's roster including:

● **Conan**: the barbarian hunk is still under license to Marvel and it looks like he's set for yet another comeback in the summer.

● **Black Knight** is a character who was fleshed out more by Steve Parkhouse within a couple of years at Marvel UK (drawn by John Stokes and Paul Neary) than in his entire 40+ years at the hands of the parent company. He's now to get a try out later in the year under the guidance of "two top former Image creators". Guess we won't be seeing a lot of Celtic mythology in play for the Knightmeister there, dudes.

● **The Wolverine Files** has been on the drawing board for about five years. It was always Marvel's intention to produce a **Legends of the Dark Knight** style book featuring the most popular X-Man.

1997 will see that desire fulfilled. with a number of popular old-school creators lined up, as well as many of the young turks of the industry. Names associated with the project currently include Howard Chaykin, Jim Starlin, **Gen$^{13}$**'s J. Scott Campbell and Marc Silvestri.

● In the wake of the *Heroes Return* series in the autumn (strange talking about something being "in the wake" of, when the actual event doesn't take place for six months!), there is likely to be a new **Doctor Doom** title.

● **Shang Chi**, launched in during the kung-fu craze and currently getting a dusting off in the pages of **X-Men**, may also get the revamp treatment.

It all depends on how well he is received in his **X-Men** and upcoming **Spider-Man** guest shots. Quite what info can be gleaned from guest-shots is a mystery: Sales leaping? A few rave letters? Or a fun character the creators like doing?

But the results will dictate whether the previous Master of Kung Fu, who had a successful 125 issue run in the Seventies and early Eighties, gets a relaunch.

Rumours circulating the Internet suggest that this could be the secret project involving Scott Lobdell.

● Trying to breathe new life into another tired Marvel & DC cliche, when the **Avengers** returns to the Marvel Universe in the autumn, it is rumoured it will be split into two titles: One comprised of a US-based team and the other an international body.

## *Silvestri Witchcraft?*

THE MARC Silvestri-created **Witchblade** is a "bad girl" book which doesn't look as though its days are numbered.

It seems almost every issue of this top-selling Image title is tough to get hold of... and expensive!

Issue #1 has been selling for as high as £16.95, while the second issue has already passed the £10 mark. But while issues #1-5 are genuinely difficult to obtain, it's the later issues, with their limited cover variants, which are getting speculators excited about comics for the first time in three years.

The cover variants for issue #10 (both Image's own and Dynamic Forces) range from £7.50 to £17.50, while the scarce Platinum version of **Tales of the Witchblade** #1 has been jumped on by speculators and sells for upwards of £25.

## *Wiley Willingham*

WHEN BILL Willingham created **The Elementals** 13 years ago, he not only established himself as a brash new talent in the industry, he also made a name for himself for being outspoken and, at times, downright offensive.

**The Elementals** was one of Comico's most popular titles during the Eighties and part of its charm was the fact that Willingham dispensed with a lot of the cliches that are prevalent in superhero comics. But the series also attracted people because of Willingham's outrageous editorials and opinions about the industry.

In an early issue of **The Elementals**, he quite categorically told his readership to stop writing letters to him suggesting plot and story developments, because — quite simply — he wasn't interested in what they wanted him to do. **The Elementals** was his "baby" and he knew exactly where he was going with the series. Unfortunately, he didn't know the fortunes of his publisher...

In the early Nineties, after freelancing for DC and Marvel, Willingham launched his sex fantasy series **Ironwood** at Fantagraphics' Eros line. This X-rated series garnered a lot of praise, largely because it actually had a plot — then unique for the mainly "hands on" Eros titles.

The title of the series was considered as controversial in some quarters as Willingham's decision to write and draw a sex book. **Ironwood**'s name owes its existance to Cat Yronwode, the then-editor at Eclipse whose surname is pronounced "iron wood" and on whom the villainess of the series is allegedly based.

**Ironwood** still remains in print, in the tradition of **Fabulous Furry Freak Brothers** with reprint editions constantly being produced, and the title has been one of the major hits of the Fantagraphics bank-rolling Eros imprint.

Now, after a three year silence, Willingham is back with a new series which — despite its infrequent schedule — looks like it could return the no-nonsense creator back into the limelight.

Entitled **Coventry**, it's an odd little Fantagraphics series which follows two psychic investigators and their adventures in the North Eastern USA.

As one might expect from a Fantagraphics title, the print run is very low (estimated at 10,000 — including overprints), but the demand for the title has been high.

Willingham was tipped for big things in the Eighties and often found fill-in work on prestige

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titles, but his outspoken opinions and often-publicised creative differences with editors meant that he never made it to the top.

Previews of **Coventry** interested a number of publishers, including Image, but Willingham opted for a cosier partnership with Fantagraphics, despite the resultant $3.95 cover price and lower profile.

## *Masochistic babies*

DESPITE it being a gloomy beginning of the year for Rob Liefeld and his Extreme team, interest in the first two issues of **Captain America** is high!

One retailer told us he just can't keep them in stock. Issue #1 has been sold for as high as £6.00 at recent comic marts and issue #2 upwards of £4.00. It appears comics readers are buying it to see for themselves if it's as bad as everybody says, and dealers are making the most of it.

## *Lois & Clark no more?*

THE honeymoon is over and so, it seems, is the TV series. *Lois & Clark: The New Adventures of Superman* is set to be cancelled at the end of its current run.

The show, which was once top rated, has been switched in the US to a 7.00pm slot, regarded as outside of the prime time viewing umbrella while pay demands by the show's two stars, Teri Hatcher and Dean Cain have almost certainly consigned the fifth series to the dustbin.

But while the TV series faces its final curtain, the *Superman Reborn* movie is very much alive and in pre-production. The current actor lined up to play Superman/Clark Kent is *Due South*'s Paul (Benton Frasier) Gross — who'll have to beef himself up for the role!

## *DC's secret*

DC IS remoured to be working on a new revamp of one of its oldest superteams. Several UK artists have been approached to work on the title which DC has been quick to deny any knowledge of.

The team, which will consist of two original members and modern incarnations of several Golden Age characters could possibly be **The Justice Society of America**, which it was rumoured last year may be headed for a return under the name of **The Society**...

## *Vampirella UK-OK*

ONE OF comics' original "hot babes", Vampirella, is being given the UK treatment by publishers Harris Comics and the cream of British writers en masse.

Warren Ellis, Garth Ennis, Mark Millar, Grant Morrison, James Robinson and John Smith have all signed up to write Vampirella stories in the coming year.


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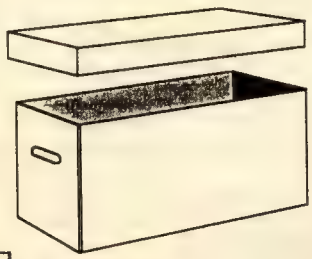

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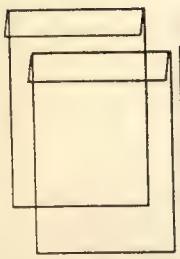

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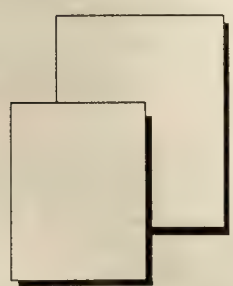

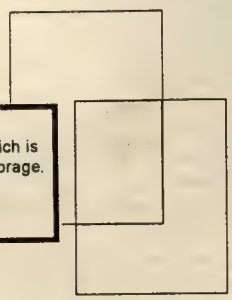

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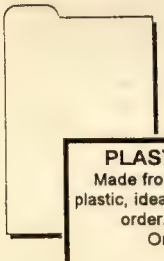

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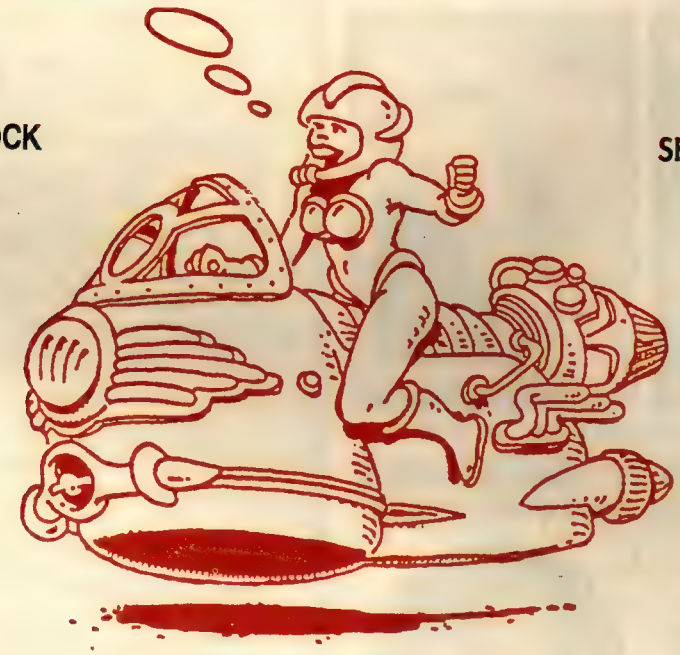

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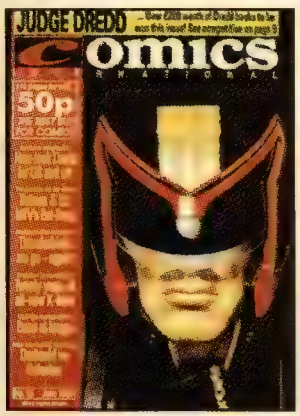

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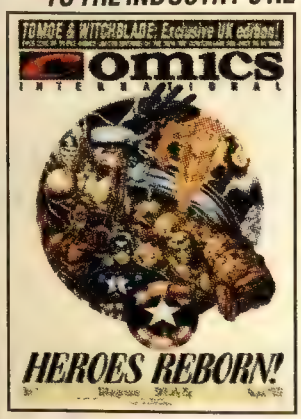

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*This issue marks a turning point for CI. While we've had distribution across Europe since our first year, it's only this month we're making a concerted effort towards US comics specialist shops in mainland Europe.*

*When you consider we've racked up a healthy 24,000 sales primarily through the UK's 200 or so comics shops, imagine what the result could be after introducing this issue to 700 European shops!*

*Welcome aboard, new retailers, we look forward to your orders flooding in!*
*...Dez Skinn/Editor*

## A squat or not?

**Skinny Melink,**
**66 Loampit Vale, London SE13**

RE ANDY ROBERTS, *Comment*, CI #77: Guilty as charged! Yes, Skinny Melink's Comic Shop has an extensive range of reasonably priced back issues (half price every Sunday!) and admittedly, at one point the shop did resemble a squat — or rather a kennel — as there were two large and somewhat dusty and mangy shop dogs and a manager who didn't put personal hygiene at the top of his list of priorities.

However, both manager and dogs have since moved on, and the shop has been refitted and re-painted. It might not be Harvey Nichols, but people no longer bring us their rubbish.

But, regardless of appearance, I think the important thing is Skinny Melink's has always been a friendly and knowledgeable shop.

I've always hated the sterile and impersonal atmosphere of many comic shops and at Skinny Melink's our customers have always been encouraged to relax and take a load off and shoot the breeze for a while, be it about comics, sports, politics, world affairs or whatever.

I think most of our customers would agree that we're one of — if not *the* — warmest, friendliest, liveliest and most entertaining comic shop in the whole country.

I'd like to invite Andy Roberts, or anyone else, to come down for a chat and a coffee (no purchase required) and see for themselves if that's not true.

*Ever get the feeling that the right to reply option has been turned into a blatent plug?* *...Dez*

## ...why can't Marvel?

**Lou Bank, Dark Horse Comics**

YOUR two-page spread on the Marvel Comics bankruptcy was the best I've read — including all those reports by the so-called "mass media". They missed the point that you hit: Marvel isn't bankrupt due to the decline in the comics market. It's bankrupt because of bad management.

It's more than a little annoying to continually read that it's the declining comics market and trading card market that have put Marvel in this position.

Dark Horse is the number four publisher, and Marvel consistently outsells us on many, many titles; yet we had a profitable year. (Not, incidentally, because of any Hollywood money; that is accounted for primarily by our Entertainment division.)

So if Marvel comics outsell Dark Horse comics (by leaps and bounds, to read its self-produced **Mega-Marvel** catalogue!), and Dark Horse made a profit in publishing, why can't Marvel? Particularly as it owns its titles outright, and the greater majority of our successful titles are either licensed or creator-owned (which reduces our take of the profit).

The truth is it *can*. It just doesn't know how. Or maybe it doesn't *want* to make a profit; maybe this is some get-rich-quick scheme by one of these Wall Street types, looking to strip-mine the stockholders. I don't know.

But I do know that the decline in the comics market isn't responsible for Marvel's bankruptcy. Yeah, the waters are choppier than they were in 1992 and 1993, but not so choppy that they can't be navigated.

Thanks for another great issue.

## Praise indeed

**Dominic Howlett, Dominic_Howlett@em.fcnbd.com**

MAY I say how good your mag is. The information provided has enabled me to know about some top stuff coming, as well as it being an entertaining read in itself. Long may you continue.

## A pretentious smeghead

**Simon Bowland, 78 Park Lane, Sandbach, Cheshire**

SOME thoughts on CI #76 and the *Letters* forum: it's moved on a long way from general letters of comment to true controversy every month!

Ian Salmon sounds a bit cheesed off with people getting at him and Fabio Barbieri raised an interesting "shoot yourself in the

foot" answer in *Letters* **CI** #74.

He starts off by saying reviewers should be allowed to express their opinions and then digs at me for heaping praise on things he doesn't like!

And to David Hern of Wonderworld (*Letters*, **CI** #76): It's all very well saying "Order **2000AD** from your comic shop" and "Order your *Star Trek* video from a comic shop" — but why? **2000AD** is out earlier in the newsagents, and I'm sure HMV has more in-depth *Star Trek* videos — cheaper than in comic shops. But I empathise with the point he raises.

Overall, #76 was another excellent issue, although if I have to gripe (and I do!) it seemed slightly more empty than normal. Don't get me wrong though, it's still the best buy around and more than worth its price.

But the *Reviews* section had shrunk somewhat and there wasn't much news (hardly your fault though, is it?) and the Jae Lee interview was a joke! When someone asks sensible questions the readers don't want stupid, cocky answers. Jae appears to me to be a pretentious smeghead.

## More free plugs!

**John Tomlinson, co-writer of Lords of Misrule**

SO, quotes about the skull beneath the skin and the dark corners of the human psyche seem inevitable, do they? Oh, dear.

Reading, or rather peeping between my fingers at the *News* section (*Re-introducing Lords of Misrule*, **CI** #77), I discovered with horror that a piece of promotional blurb I wrote ages ago for Dark Horse had been recycled as a direct quote.

Had I known it would be used in this context, I'd probably have written something a bit less grandiose. Hopefully you will see through such hairy-palmed silliness and buy **Lords** in droves anyway. Ta for the plug, though.

## Liefeld revisited

**Raj Bahanda, 108 Kirkland Street, Maryhill, Glasgow**

BEFORE throwing my weight in behind all the arguments and hype surrounding Liefeld's *Heroes Reborn* titles, I thought I'd sit down and read the first five issues of each title so that I could make an informed and unbiased opinion.

Now while I think that some of the comments on Mr Liefeld and his work have been over-the-top to say the least — as well as downright hysterical at times — I can now see where some of the criticism is coming from.

While I think Liefeld has a genuine love for his characters, I don't think he really has any understanding of their significance, as the last few issues of **The Avengers** and **Captain America** have shown. He seems intent on the removal of the "legend" from Captain America and the "mighty" from Thor.

Look at **Captain America** #3, Cap gets his butt kicked like a rank amateur without so much as even getting a single punch in.

I know he's supposed to be adjusting to his "new" powers but the Cap I've known for all these years was 10 times more worthy.

Then we go to **Avengers** #4 and #5 in which the Avengers, especially Thor, were laughable. Cap, Hawkeye, Swordsman and Hellcat came across as ineffectual amateurs and as for what Liefeld has done to Thor — I was prepared to put up with some of the dodgy dialogue, but issue #5 was the last straw. Liefeld in one issue rewrote Marvel history.

For 30+ years, Thor and the Hulk have tried to batter each other senseless and have never remotely managed it. Even in recent years when there's been signs from Marvel that they regarded the Hulk as their strongest hero, the difference was fractional and no matter how angry he got or how many savage blows he hit Thor with, he could never put him down for the count.

Now what do we see? A slightly angry Hulk knocking Thor down with three punches! Really, Mr Liefeld, what were you thinking about? The Mighty Thor? More like the Mighty Sore of **Not Brand Echh** fame!

It's a great pity really because, unlike some others, I actually think Mr Liefeld has a lot going for him. But unless he starts learning fast who he's been given the responsibility of dealing with, he'll be in big trouble.

## McCarthy rules

**Reubs Wilmott, 19 Melbourne Road, Ipswich, Suffolk IP4 5PP**

THANKS for the Brendan McCarthy page and new artwork (**CI** #77). At the election, I would vote for any party that would bring in a law stating that Mr McCarthy must produce *at least* one comic a year.

I've always said someone should publish a McCarthy sketchbook of storyboards for films, doodles, cartoons, character designs and the like, but I suspect I'd be the only person to buy it.

Thanks also for returning the dates to the *Advance Listings*.


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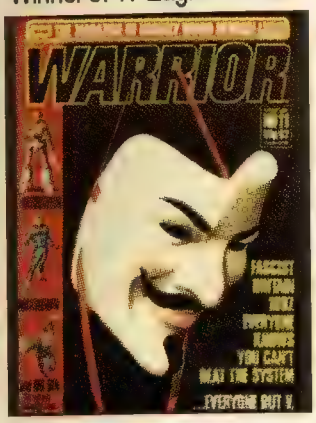


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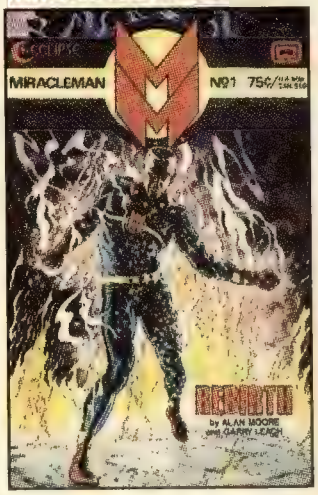


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Wanted to complete my set, bonus foil card *Spider-Man vs Venom* from 1992 Skybox *Marvel Masterpieces I* card set. Tel: Dale 0117 947 8436 if you can help.

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Wanted: London Night's **Embrace: Kill Me Softly** signed by Carmen Elektra. Contact Idham at 116 The Ridgeway, Kingsbury, London NW9 0UG. Tel: 0181 205 5689. E-mail: IRAMADI@MSN.COM

Wanted: coverless DCs pre 1970. Please send details to Bohdan Kowalyk, 113 Mosswood Crescent, Bestwood Park, Nottingham NG5 5SU.

Wanted; Bone T-shirts and pins; **The Maxx** 18 & 19. List of **X-Files** magazines and variant cover comics available to swap. Contact Richard: 0113 294 6151.

Early British **Valiant** comics wanted to finish collection, especially if Lee from Essex still has some for sale — I would be very interested. Must be in very good condition as I have them bound into volumes. Please phone Jim on 0181 305 1975 or 0181 517 0491.

Wanted to buy or trade, your old trading card magazines and cards: **Collect Non-Sport Update, The Wrapper**, etc. Have cards, comics, film/TV/SF mags to trade. Please send lists to M. Smith, 12 Canning St, Bathside, Harwich, Essex C012 3JB.

Wanted: **Strangers in Paradise** volume 1 #1-3, plus any other work related to Terry Moore. Also wanted: **Wizard Ace** premiums. Please contact Simon, 6 Rushholme Grove, Manchester M14 5AR or call 0161 224 5647.

Do you collect *X-Files* cards and cogs and need a few cards? Well I may be your answer to the problem. I am trying to set up a swap shop by mail. No money involved, just send your wants/swap lists to: N. Wilson, 97 Stamfordham Drive, Springwood, Liverpool L19 4XD. Please also enclose an SAE.

Wanted in fine condition: **Superman vs Muhammad Ali**. Will pay cash or exchange for **X-Files** ashcan. Please call Sean Price on 0181 341 5525.

Wanted: the title splash page for *Meltdown Man* (**2000AD** prog 227). Will pay good money or swap some existing artwork. Even if you have it but don't want to sell it please contact me (I'm desperate —does it show!!) so I can call off my two year search for it! Please telephone Rob on 0127 975 8275 anytime.

Wanted: **Strangers In Paradise** mini series 1-3 (Antarctic Press) 1st and 2nd prints. Good price paid. Please telephone Paul: 0161 702 0037.

Wanted: original art, prints, etc (eg: Batman, Miller, Bolton) in exchange for comics from my collection including DCs from mid 1970s, Marvels and indies (eg: **Showcase** 43 & 60; **Marvel Premiere** 15 & 25; **Savage Sword of Conan** 1; **Cry For Dawn** 1). Contact Wincen, 12 Elmhurst Drive, South Woodford, London E18 1BT. Tel: 0181 530 8564.

Wanted: *Simpsons One* (Skybox) chase cards, wiggles, glow-in-the-dark and cel; *Simpsons Two* (Skybox) chase cards W1 D1 D2 D3 A1 A2 A3 A4. Tel 0122 482 5937 and ask for Scott.

Wanted: **The Valiant Book of Magic and Mystery** 1976. Will pay cash or exchange comics (eg: **X-Men**). Contact Steve, 39 Enfield Road, Huncoat, Lancs BB5 6NN, or telephone 0125 438 7117.

One drastically reduced wants list follows. DCs: **Adventure Comics** 210 211; **Batman** 51-60 62 65 66 70 72 73 79 85 92 99; **Blackhawk** 9-12 14-22 24-31 33 35 36 38 42-44 48-50 52-54 56 58 65 67-70 83 93 96 105 121; **Detective Comics** 200-206 209 210 213 214 216 218 220 225 229 230 254; **House of Mystery** 61 63 76 84; **House of Secrets** 15 16; **Mystery in Space** 3-5 7 9-11 13 15 16 18 19 21 35 38 39 44-47; **My Greatest Adventure** 2 5 14; **Our Army at War** 83 86 87 93 95; **Strange Adventures** 2 7-12 15-17 19-28 30-33 35-49 51-55 57 58 62-64 67-69 73 76 77 80 82-86 88 89 91 92 94 102-104 106-108 110-112 119; **Superman** 1-12 14 15 17-27 29-33 36-47 50-56 59-63 67 71 75 76 87; **Tales of the Unexpected** 3 14 15 17 21 26 29; **World's Finest** 71-74. Marvels: **Gunsmoke Western** 56 78-80; **Journey into Mystery** 51 54 55; **Rawhide Kid** (Kirby) 17 21 22; **Strange Tales** 67 69; **Strange Worlds** 4; **Two-Gun Kid** 52-54. Independents: **Adventures of the Fly** (Archie) 3 8; **Alarming Tales** (Harvey) 1 3-5; **Avenger** (ME) 3 4; **Doctor Solar** (GK) 26 29-31; **Fighting American** 1-3 5-7; **Flyman** (Archie) 34; **Magnus** (GK) 27; **Mad** 1-6 12 13 18 20 23 24; **Tales of the Mysterious Traveler** (Charlton) 2-10 12 13; **Thunder-Bunny** (WaRP) 1; **Tor** (St John) 2 5. Please write with prices /grades to: D. Skinn, 8 Trinity Rd, London N2 8JJ.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

***Fanzine and small press titles must not be offered for sale before being printed. To verify publication, samples should be sent with advertising copy.***

**The Black Panther: Tiger, Tiger, Burning Bright.** Melita and Kyle face new danger in Wakanda's Serpent Valley. Also Shanna story and an article. 42 pages with colour cover. Price £3 including postage, from: Steve Nottingham, 37, Maxwell Road, Beaconsfield, Bucks, HP9 1RG.

Dachshund Distribution. So far available 50p: **Simon Cat, Jape** 2 & 4, **Assassin & Whiner** 5. 60p: **Sap**. 70p: **Scrumpy, Arnie Punk Zine** 5 6 7, **Sad Animal** 2. £1: **Guest List Girls, Dole Scum, Nimby**. Prices include p&p. Send cash or stamps only: Dachshund Distribution, c/o Andy Konky Kru, PO Box 8892, London SW15.

**Dead Hand** 2. Experience the savagely morphed, haunting and fantastic images of unearthly origin. Taste the astral fire of the exhumed **Dead Hand Portfolio**. Send your soul and an A4 SAE to Dead Hand, 2 Dudley Close, North Marston, Buckinghamshire MK18 3RA.

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**Ajax** #2 is now available (from the creator of The Phantom Bog-Roller and Super-Prat). It's a tale of humorous sci-fi, politics, scandal and *Star Wars*. Type fun! Only 75p plus p&p from Steven Corps, 276 Straight Rd, Colchester, Essex CO3 5DX.

**Aurora-5** #2 — worth the wait! Final part of the *With Liberty...* storyline. Written by Adelheid Brogden and illustrated by David Arran Brogden, A4 sized, 16 pages only £1.60. Send to: Enigma Studios, 148 Upper Castle Street, West Bowling, Bradford, West Yorkshire BD5 7RY.

Wanted: graphic artist for strictly amateur creative partnership. Necessary qualities: talent, versatility, willingness to learn. Contact Simon Leitch, writer, Flat C, 70 High Street, Penge, london SE20 7HB. Telephone: 0181 778 2441.

**Fin De Siecle**, the pin-up zine issue 3 out now. Featuring Lowrey! Kinsella! Fiddy! Hah! Best in universe! Starring Pamela Anderson, Lady Di and psyence agent Rice. What more do you want? Ancient Chinese philosophy? Okay then... 85p (inc p&p) from Gavin Palmer, 21 Markham Avenue, Weymouth, Dorset DT4 0QL.

Want to become a successful cartoonist or comic strip illustrator? Learn proportion, perspective, humour, realism, panel arrangements. For beginners and improvers! For details send an SAE to: Leonard White, 87 Listria Park, Stoke Newington, London N16 5SP.

Radar Publications, a new alternative comics company want to hear from anybody who would like their work published in our new anthology **Velocity Comics**. For more info, e-mail 106541.2422@compuserve.com or send submissions to Radar Publications, 10 Overton Ave, Strathaven, Lanarkshire ML10 6NR.

**15 Nuns**: the stylishly blasphemous comic that showcases northwest talent sat its best. Issue 2 out now. Light-hearted biblical laughs — nuns with guns, washing machines with arms, chicks with big thingies — what more could you ask for? £1 including p&p from 15 Nuns, 164 Dane Road, Sale M33 2LQ.

**Something Fast** 4 is out now! Pursued by the police, the government and a ghost assassin, where can the Fast Boys run to now? Plus: the secret of *Eisenstein's Gods* is revealed! £1.50 inclusive to Will Pickering, 10 Grosvenor Court, 365 Byres Road, Glasgow G12 8AU. Issues 1 2 and 3 are still available.

Need a cartoon caricature or humorous drawing of yourself, your friends or your fanzine? Why not have it drawn by a professional at a reasonable price? Ideal for birthdays, gifts or front cover illustrations. Send enquiries and an SAE to: Joe McKeough, 15 Coldwell Terrace, Felling, Gateshead NE10 9EY.

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**SUNDAY 16th FEBRUARY**
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**SUNDAY 9th MARCH**
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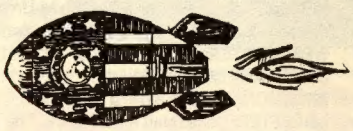

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FUTURE COMICBOOK MARKETPLACE DATES:
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7TH SEPTEMBER, 2ND NOVEMBER 1997.


# eVENTS

*An at-a-glance guide, this listing gives the dates and locations of all forthcoming events advertised in this issue of **Comics International**. It includes a bracketed number after each entry noting the page where the advertisement with the event's full details appears.*

## FEBRUARY

15/2 **COVENTRY:** Comic, Card & Related Mart, Univ Student's Union, Priory St . (p 91)
15/2 **LEEDS:** Comic Mart & Card Show, Metropolitan University, Brunswick Hall, Merrion Way, Leeds ..... (p 20)
16/2 **LONDON:** Card Mart, Camden Centre, Bidborough Street ..... (p 21)
16/2 **LONDON:** Comic, Card & Related Mart with guest Chris Achilleos, TUC Congress Centre, 23-28 Great Russell Street, London ..... (p 91)
22/2 **GLOUCESTER:** Comic, Card & Sci-Fi Mart, Gloucester Leisure Centre, Bruton Way, Gloucester ..... (p 61)
22/2 **PETERBOROUGH:** Comic Mart & Card Show, Great Northern Hotel, Station Approach, Peterborough ..... (p 20)
23/2 **BRISTOL:** Comic, Card, Sci-Fi & Toy Fair, Whitchurch Sports Centre, Bamfield, Whitchurch, Bristol ..... (p 59)
23/2 **LEICESTER:** Comic Mart & Card Show, The YMCA, Granby Street ..... (p 20)
23/2 **MAIDSTONE:** Comic, Film & SF Fair, Maidstone Leisure Centre, Mote Park (p 32)

## MARCH

1/3 **BIRMINGHAM:** Comic Mart & Card Show, Carrs Lane Church Centre ..... (p 20)
2/3 **LONDON:** Card, SF & Cult TV Fair, Lee Valley Leisure Cnt, Meridian Way N9 (p 58)
2/3 **LONDON:** Comicbook Marketplace, Camden Centre, Bidborough Street ... (p 90)
8/3 **EXETER:** Comic, Card, Sci-Fi & Fair, Riverside Leisure Centre, Cowick St .. (p 59)
8/3 **NEWCASTLE:** Comic Mart & Card Show, University of Northumbria, Student's Union Ballroon, Sandyford Road, Newcastle-upon-Tyne ..... (p 20)
9/3 **LIVERPOOL:** Comic, Card & Related Mart with guest Charles Adlard, Central Hall, Renshaw Street, Liverpool ..... (p 91)
14/3 **NOTTINGHAM:** Terry Moore signing (4-8pm) at Page 45, 9 Market Street .. (p 23)
15/3 **BRISTOL:** Comic, Card & SF Mart, Easton Leisure Cnt, Stapleton Rd West . (p 61)
15/3 **LONDON:** 2-day UKCAC '97, The Institute of Education, WC1 ..... (p 38)
16/3 **CHESHUNT:** Comic, SF & Film Fair — Star Wars Special, Grundy Park Leisure Centre, Windmill lane, Cheshunt, Herts ..... (p 32)
22/3 **MANCHESTER:** Comic Mart & Card Show, Sachas Hotel, Tibb St, Piccadilly (p 20)
23/3 **LIVERPOOL:** Comic Mart & Card Show, Gladstone Hotel, Lord Nelson Street (p 20)
29/3 **NOTTINGHAM:** Comic Mart & Card Show, The Victoria Leisure Centre, Gedling Street, Nottingham ..... (p 20)
30/3 **CARDIFF:** Comic, Card & SF Mart with guest Charles Adlard, The Angel Hotel, Westgate Steet, Cardiff ..... (p 61)

## APRIL

5/4 **BATH:** Comic, Card, Sci-Fi & Toy Mart, Window Art Centre, off Southgate St (p 59)
5/4 **LEEDS:** Comic Mart & Card Show, Metropolitan University, Brunswick Hall, Merrion Way, Leeds ..... (p 20)
5/4 **SWINDON:** Comic, Card & SF Mart, Oasis Leisure Centre, North Star Ave . (p 61)
6/4 **LONDON:** National Comicbook Marketplace & Card Mart, The Royal National Hotel, Bedford Way, London WC1 ..... (p 76)
12/4 **BIRMINGHAM:** 2-day Memorabilia '97, The NEC, Birmingham ..... (p 41)
19/4 **GLASGOW:** Comic & Card Mart, The Arches, Midland Street ..... (p 55)
19/4 **SHEFFIELD:** Comic Mart & Card Show, Sheffield Hallam Univ, Howard St .. (p 20)
20/4 **BASILDON:** Card, SF & Cult TV Fair, Basildon Sports Centre, Nethermayne (p 58)
20/4 **HULL:** Comic Mart & Card Show, Comfort Friendly Inn, Anlaby Road ..... (p 20)
20/4 **LONDON:** Comic, Card & Related Mart with guests Bryan Talbot & Ramsey Campbell, TUC Congress Centre, 23-28 Great Russell Street, London ..... (p 91)
26/4 **NEWCASTLE:** Comic Mart & Card Show, University of Northumbria, Student's Union Ballroon, Sandyford Road, Newcastle-upon-Tyne ..... (p 20)
26/4 **WESTMINSTER:** Comic, Card & SF Mart, Westminster Centrel Hall, Storey's Gate, Westminster, London ..... (p 32)
27/4 **BRIGHTON:** Comic, Card and Record Fair, The Brighton Centre, Seafront . (p 51)
27/4 **LEICESTER:** Comic Mart & Card Show, The YMCA, Granby Street ..... (p 20)
27/4 **WEYMOUTH:** Comic, Card & SF Mart, Rembrandt Hotel, Dorchester Road . (p 61)

## MAY

3/5 **MANCHESTER:** Comic Mart & Card Show, Sachas Hotel, Tibb St, Piccadilly (p 20)
4/5 **LONDON:** Comicbook Marketplace, Camden Centre, Bidborough Street ... (p 90)
10/5 **BIRMINGHAM:** Comic Mart & Card Show, Carrs Lane Church Centre ..... (p 20)
10/5 **GLOUCESTER:** Comic, Card & Sci-Fi Mart, Gloucester Leisure Centre, Bruton Way, Gloucester ..... (p 61)
10/5 **LIVERPOOL:** Comic, Card & Related Mart, Bluecoat Chambers, Liverpool . (p 91)
11/5 **CHESHUNT:** Comic, SF & Film Fair — Star Wars Special, Grundy Park Leisure Centre, Windmill lane, Cheshunt, Herts ..... (p 32)
17/5 **NOTTINGHAM:** Comic Mart & Card Show, Victoria Leisure Cnt, Gedling St . (p 20)
18/5 **CARDIFF:** Comic, Card & SF Mart with guest Charles Adlard, The Angel Hotel, Westgate Steet, Cardiff ..... (p 61)
18/5 **MAIDSTONE:** Comic, Film & SF Fair, Maidstone Leisure Centre, Mote Park (p 32)
24/5 **LEEDS:** Comic Mart & Card Show, Metropolitan University, Brunswick Hall, Merrion Way, Leeds ..... (p 20)

*Please note that the above listing of comics and card-related events is a free service to **Comics International** display advertisers only and independent bookings cannot be accepted.*

# SUNDAY 16th FEBRUARY
# SUNDAY 20th APRIL

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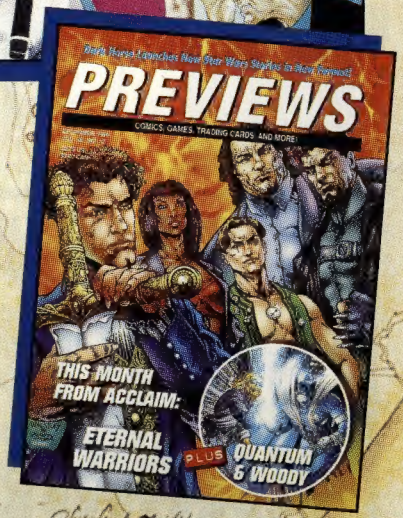

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